Daily Report

East Europe

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Assembly Passes Media Law Despite Opposition

AU2011144791 Tirana ATA in English 1037 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tirana, November 20 (ATA)—In the plenary sitting of the People's Assembly held on November 19 afternoon there was examined and endorsed the Law on the Status of Albanian Radio-Television. The deputies of the Democratic Party did not take part in this sitting.

This draft law has been submitted on the basis of the proposal made by the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly on Mass Media and defines that Albanian Radio-Television is a central information-cultural state, all-national institution guided by the lofty national ideals. It also defines the tasks and rights of Albanian Radio-Television, the role of the Steering Council of the Albanian Radio-Television.

All-Albanian Assembly Postponed Until 20 Jan

AU2011171291 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The Initiating Commission for summoning the Assembly of National Conciliation and Unification met in one of the halls of the Palace of Congresses on the morning of 20 November. The meeting discussed the work done so far to organize the assembly and laid down tasks for the future. The commission also heard about the work done by the group that met with representatives of Kosovo intellectuals and approved the declaration signed by the representatives of Kosovo intellectuals. The declaration states:

At a recent meeting, the representatives of the Initiating Commission for the Assembly of National Conciliation and Unification examined the work done in preparation for this all-Albanian Assembly and the problems the assembly will discuss. All those present considered the assembly to be a major historical event for the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Kosovo and a good start to solving the Albanian question, present and future. With the aim of improving work in preparing this assembly, stimulating Albanian and world public opinion, and ensuring that the proceedings are crowned with total success, the meeting decided:

1. The date of the Assembly of National Conciliation and Unification is postponed from 28 November 1991 to 20 January 1992, which is also a historic date linked to the name of our national hero Gjergj Kastrioti Skenderbeu.

2. The academicians Professor Dr. Teki Taktari and Professor Rexhep Qosja are elected co-chairmen of the Assembly for National Conciliation and Unification.

3. A full list of the organizing commission for the Assembly of National Conciliation and Unification will be published before 23 November.

Academician Teki Taktari; Academician Mark Krasniqi; Professor Hajrullah Gorani; Professor Petro Lalaj; Professor Hasan Mekuli; Professor Ramiz Kelmendi; Senior Lecturer Lulzim Hana.

Ballsh Oil Workers' Strike Enters Seventh Day

AU2011162091 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] This is the seventh day on which about 2,000 workers of the Ballsh Oil Processing Combine have been on strike. The main reasons for this strike include their rejection of the verdict of the Fier District Court convicting three leaders of the combine's Independent Trade Unions who were on the committee of the previous strike; the disinformation of the public by the spokesman of the Ministry of Mining and Energy Resources through the radio, television, and ATA regarding the strike of this combine's workers; and the failure to meet repeated demands to the government to improve working and living conditions, wages and earnings, the dismissal of the management, etc.

To discuss these problems, a meeting was organized at the combine yesterday afternoon between representatives of the workers of all the combine's departments and Dr. Teodor Kareco, secretary-general of the Council of Ministers; Kleanthi Koci, chairman of the Supreme Court; Alaudin Kodra, deputy minister of mining and energy resources; Bujar (?Metavishta), deputy chairman of the Pluralist District Executive Committee, and others.

Lirian Mamaj, chairman of the combine's Trade Union Council, first outlined the workers' concerns and problems that have brought them out on strike. Kleanthi Koci, chairman of the Supreme Court, after talking about the need to understanding law enforcement and replying to many questions posed by those present, said among other things that, having received your appeal against the verdict of Fier District Court, I examined the way it was reached, and this matter will be settled as soon as possible and in accordance with the law. Dr. Teodor Kareco, after talking about the country's extremely grave economic situation, stressed that it cannot be overcome solely by peremptory demands and strikes, but by getting down to work all together. He said that many demands that are within the competence of the combine's management itself should be solved as soon as possible, while the others should be settled under the Law on Enterprises that will take effect soon. He also called on the striking workers to start work, because of the importance of this combine's production for the country's economy.

After a lengthy debate, the representatives of the striking workers did not agree to resume work until the government meets their demands.

Kapllani Interviewed on Rome, Brussels Visits

AU1911161991 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister Muhamet Kapllani by Vjollca Lici; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Lici] Mr. Kapllani, you recently returned from visits to Rome and Brussels. We would like to hear from you about the results of the meetings you held, first with your Italian colleague Mr. Gianni De Michelis, and then with Italian Secretary of State Claudio Vitalone in Brussels, a meeting intended to make the EEC aware of Albania's problems.

[Kapllani] During my recent meeting with Mr. De Michelis in Rome, we talked about problems and our specific relations, and especially about the materializing the Italian aid and credit to Albania, which both Albania and Italy now know was granted in the bilateral agreement.

The aim of the latter meeting was to lend impetus to food and emergency aid and aid in the form of raw materials, because, as we know, Italy is carrying the main burden here regarding Albania, and the EEC has what one might call a familiar commitment to Italy granting a proportion of this aid. We achieved total understanding with Mr. De Michelis about the delays that have been caused by purely technical problems, and avoiding these technical delays requires greater efforts by the bureaucracies of both countries. Bureaucracy, what one might call the bureaucratic spider's web, must not be allowed to create hindrances or create the impression that aid is petering out or, as some people might misinterpret it, is being obstructed. In fact there is nothing political in this, and Italy is entirely prepared to continue to supply food and other aid on the basis of the agreement reached between the two sides.

The important thing is therefore that we and Mr. De Michelis discussed this issue and took tangible measures in the presence of economic and political leaders, including our minister of foreign economic relations, who met representatives of firms. In other words, everything is proceeding normally in our contacts with firms too, to help everything to proceed normally and to prevent aid being obstructed in any way.

I consider that our relations with Italy are progressing well and not just normally. They are relations of substance which, alongside the help of many other states, will alleviate the burden of this transition period in Albania. Of course, it must be realized that Italy's major role must be seen in a European context, that of the European Community of 12. We were recently invited to Brussels both by the 12 and the Group of 24. Secretary of State Vitalone represented Italy there, and we met him. I wish to underline on this occasion that Mr. Vitalone called on the Group of 24 and the EEC to increase their aid to Albania; after all, Albania is a somewhat special case among the countries of East and central Europe because of the economic and social problems it is experiencing, and therefore requires greater and more significant aid, all the more so because it is a small country in East Europe.

We for our part also described the economic, social, and political situation in Albania to the Group of 24, and also described the Albanian economy's need to overcome in particular these six difficult winter months. It is also a matter of carrying out the reform submitted by our government to the parliament. I think that we met with total understanding from the EEC and the Group of 24, and, in my view, if the aid offered—food aid, emergency aid, investment aid, help in improving the balance of payments with credit, help with raw materials, and help through the PHARE [Economic Reconstruction Aid for Poland and Hungary] program for small and medium-sized businesses in East Europe—if this aid proceeds normally, the reform program will also make progress in Albania, and this difficult period of transition will be overcome as painlessly as possible.

In conclusion, I wish to say that Albanian-Italian relations assume a significant and palpable role in all this, and I hope that they will develop increasingly well.

Leaders Receive Turkish Chief of Staff Gures

Teta Comments on Army Reforms

AU1911144791 Tirana ATA in English 0905 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tirana, November 19 (ATA)—On November 18, before noon, the chief of the General Staff of the Turkish Army, General Dogan Gures, was received at the Ministry of Defence by the Minister Perikli Teta. At the entrance of the ministry the bodyguards lined up in his honour.

Attending the meeting were also the chief of the General Staff of the Army, Kostaq Karoli, and other military officials.

Present was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey in Tirana, Teoman Surenkok.

The minister of defence, Perikli Teta, said among other things that this visit is of special importance to us as old friends as it is the first one by a Turkish high-ranking military delegation and said that in the future these meetings will intensify in all the military ranks. He acquainted the Turkish general with the measures the Stability Government has taken for the reform in our country, in whose context the reformation of the Army. Then he spoke of the changes taking place in the Army, its depoliticisation and departization so that it acts only on the basis of the laws approved by the pluralistic parliament and on the Army's contribution to the process of the country's democratization, its involvement in dividing the aids for the people, etc.

On his part, the chief of the General Staff of the Army, Dogan Gures, voiced his conviction that the relations between Albania and Turkey will strengthen further. He said that we are following with interest the democratization process in your country and the Turkish Army will be glad to help you. Both our armies, he said, have to learn from each other and this is also one of the aims of my visit to this friendly country. In the military aspect, he said, Turkey has a rich experience as it is a NATO member. At the end of my visit, he said, we may reach also an agreement for the training of the military officials in the military schools of Turkey. The talk passed in a warm atmosphere.

Pashko on Democratization Process

AU1911145091 Tirana ATA in English 0911 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tirana, November 19 (ATA)—On November 18 before noon, Dr. Gramoz Pashko, deputy prime minister and minister of economy, received at the seat of Prime Minister's Office the delegation of the high-level delegation of the Turkish Army, headed by Army General Dogan Gures, chief of the General Staff of the Turkish Army.

At first, Dr. Gramoz Pashko spoke on the processes of democratization in our country, the political, economic and social reforms and dwelt in particular on the difficulties we come across on the road to the country's stability. Albania, said he, is now in the period of transition to the market economy. The situation keeps aggravating with every passing day, particularly now in winter, for the supply of the people with food, heating, etc. In order to cope with this situation we are using the Army to supply the remote zones, to transport wood for heating, etc. But we lack infrastructure and logistics. If we will overcome the difficulties in the course of these three-four years, said Dr. Gramoz Pashko, then we say we will overcome the crisis.

Further on, Mr. Pashko spoke of the traditional friendship binding our two peoples. He appreciated the aid of the Turkish Government for Albania which was successfully realized and voiced his opinion that there are other areas of cooperation.

On his part, Army General Dogan Gures said among the other things that the creation of the coalition government by different parties in Albania shows of your national unity. I want to say that our president has special sympathy for Albania and soon he will pay a visit to Albania. The new Turkish Government too, as far as I know, has very positive views for Albania. Turkey, stressed Mr. Gures, will fulfill its tasks in the Balkan, European and international framework.

At the meeting it was also spoken on the situation in the Balkans and Yugoslavia. Both interlocutors upheld the same opinion that the involvement of the Army in military actions further aggravated the situation in Yugoslavia. In my opinion, said Dr. Pashko, Serbia is the last hearth of communism in Europe and added that there can be no tranquillity in the Balkans without adopting resolute stands against the Serbian authorities. Half of the Albanian population which lives in Yugoslavia is currently under the oppression and repression of Serb Government, thus violating the fundamental human rights and freedoms, according to the Helsinki and Paris Charters.

Attending the meeting were also the chief of the General Staff of the Army, Kostaq Karoli; Deputy Teodor Keko; and officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Present was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey in the Republic of Albania, Teoman Surenkok.

Alia Views Multilateral Relations

AU2011143191 Tirana ATA in English 0902 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tirana, November 20 (ATA)—The president of the Republic of Albania, Ramiz Alia, received at the Palace of Brigades on November 19 afternoon the Turkish high-ranking military delegation, headed by the chief of the General Staff of the Army, General Dogan Gures.

During the reception, President Ramiz Alia and General Dogan Gures had a cordial and friendly talk. I recall with satisfaction my visit to your beautiful country, where I had the pleasure to talk with President Ozal and other senior Turkish officials, said the president.

I consider your visit to Albania as continuation of the strengthening of the friendly relations between our two countries and peoples.

Currently Turkey, President Ramiz Alia said, is a modern state with an effective organisation of the political, social and military life.

On his part General Dogan Gures conveyed to the president of the Republic of Albania, Ramiz Alia, the best greetings and wishes of president of the Republic of Turkey, Turgut Ozal. President Ozal told me that he will pay an official and friendly visit to Albania within this year.

President Ramiz Alia and General Gures talked on the multilateral relations between the two countries, including also the military ones. They also discussed on the situation in the region. President Ramiz Alia said that the situation in the Balkans is not tranquil, particularly due to the Yugoslav crisis which keeps aggravating. He aired Albania's worries for the dangers this crisis is fraught with for our brothers in Yugoslavia and the situation in our country.

Attending the reception were the minister of defence, Perikli Teta, and the chief of the General Staff of the Army, Kostaq Karoli.

Present was also the ambassador of Turkey in Tirana, Teoman Surenkok.

Kosovo Prime Minister Bukoshi Continues Visit

Islami on Economic Difficulties

AU2011143791 Tirana ATA in English 1015 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tirana, November 20 (ATA)—On November 19, afternoon, the chairman of the Presidency of the People's Assembly, Dr. Kastriot Islami, received the prime minister of the Republic of Kosovo, Dr. Bujar Bukoshi, in the Palace of Congresses. At the beginning Dr. Kastriot Islami said that he was very happy to be given the possibility to talk with the brothers of the same blood and of the same language and wished Dr. Bujar Bukoshi success in his duty of great responsibility to the benefit of our national cause.

The economic difficulties occupy the main place, Kastriot Islami said further on, saying that we make efforts to reach the necessary consensus to pass this difficult economic test and period. He said that we may solve the major problems facing us by means of unity. Kastriot Islami assessed the fruitful stands on national scale adopted in Kosovo.

On his part, Dr. Bujar Bukoshi thanked for the heartfelt reception and said that we have had much work to do with regard to the competences and functioning of the mechanisms of the government of the Republic of Kosovo. He pointed out that they pursue with great care the situations in Kosovo and Yugoslavia, trying to find out a suitable and acceptable solution for our national question.

Present in this meeting was also Prof. Ali Aliu.

Kapllani Cites Ministry Activity

AU2011144091 Tirana ATA in English 1019 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tirana, November 20 (ATA)—On November 19, afternoon, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Albania, Muhamet Kapllani, received in the seat of this ministry the prime minister of the Republic of Kosovo, Dr. Bujar Bukoshi.

The foreign minister briefed the prime minister of Kosovo with the activity of this ministry and the Albanian diplomacy under the new circumstances of the democratisation of the country's life. Our foreign policy, Mr. Kapllani said, continuously strives to keep pace with the recent changes that have occurred in Europe and in the world safeguarding first of all the national interests, the great interests of the Albanian people.

In course of the meeting opinions were exchanged on various political problems to the interest of the Albanian cause making evident the current and future tasks our nation is facing with.

The meeting passed in a warm and fraternal atmosphere.

Ganev Greets Shevardnadze on Appointment

AU2011195091 Sofia Khristo Botev Radio Network in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Stoyan Ganev, minister of foreign affairs, has greeted Eduard Shevardnadze on his appointment as minister of foreign affairs of the Union of Sovereign States.

The message expresses confidence that relations between the two countries, including contacts between the foreign policy departments, will preserve the best elements of the traditions and will enrich themselves with new democratic contents.

I believe that our meetings in Moscow in October and the joint declaration signed by us will serve as a good beginning for our future common activity in the interest of our peoples, the democratic changes, and peace and stability in Europe and the world, the message reads.

Intellectuals Condemn Serbian 'Genocide'

AU2011205291 Sofia BTA in English 2040 GMT 20 Nov 91

["Bulgarian Intellectuals Condemn Serbian Aggression"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, November 20 (BTA)—Ninety Bulgarian intellectuals appealed today to stop the aggression of Serbian nationalism.

They called on the governments of the UN member-countries, on politicians and intellectuals around the world to step up their efforts for an immediate recognition of the state independence of Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia and Bosnia and Hercegovina. The Bulgarian intellectuals appealed to the world public to condemn the genocide of Serbian chauvinism and to force the Serbian troops to withdraw from the occupied territories.

Among those who signed the appeal are outstanding Bulgarian writers, journalists and MP's [member of parliament]. The appeal ends with the words: "Red fascism should be stopped."

Transportation Corridor Via Macedonia Discussed

AU2011170991 Sofia BTA in English 1631 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Sofia, November 20 (BTA)—Experts from Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania will explore opportunities for developing a "transport corridor" through the three countries, under a protocol signed here today by Mr. Aleksandur Aleksandrov, Bulgaria's minister of transport, Mr. Aleksandar Lepavcev, Macedonia's minister of development, construction, transport and environmental protection, and Mr. Fatos Bitincka, [Albania's] minister of transport.

The idea is to improve the infrastructure of road and rai'way transport, so as to facilitate economic contacts among the three countries.

The project reflects integration processes in Europe, the three ministers stated after the meeting. According to them, technical improvements of the transport infrastructure should combine with phasing out tax, customs and other barriers now impeding both mutually advantageous business cooperation and human contacts.

Mr. Lepavcev said that his government will cancel within half a year all legislative and statutory restrictions concerning Macedonia's economic contacts with its neighbours and other countries. He specified that the government has drafted a package of bills abolishing restrictions imposed by the local and federative legislation. A case in point is the requirement that Bulgarians should exchange 200 U.S. dollars on entering Macedonia, which Mr. Lepavcev described as "nonsense."

Asked by BTA whether Macedonia's leaders fear that Belgrade will put up an opposition employing means similar to those used against Croatia, Mr. Lepavcev said that "things are different in Macedonia." "If someone wants to impose his will on Macedonia with tanks and guns, our people will find a way to resist. No people will let itself be trodden down," Mr. Lepavcev stated.

Macedonia's minister said this in his native tongue without interpretation.

Assembly Amends Election Bill, Elects Commission

AU2011211791 Sofia BTA in English 2015 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Sofia, November 20 (BTA)—Today parliament voted on first reading an amendment to the Electoral Law concerning the right of Bulgarian citizens to vote abroad. The amendment was moved by an MP [member of parliament] of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) in connection with the presidential elections scheduled for January 12, 1992.

The SDS insisted on the right of the Bulgarians to vote abroad in the previous parliament too, during the debates on the Parliamentary Elections Law. But then the majority of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) pushed through a special clause under which Bulgarian citizens permanently resident abroad could vote only in Bulgaria.

Today too, a BSP MP objected against this amendment arguing that one million Bulgarian citizens have emigrated to Turkey since 1928. Will they vote now, he asked. In this connection the spokesman for the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (DPS), Mr. Yunal Lyutfi, said that Turkey does not recognize dual citizenship and many of these people are already Turkish citizens.

Today parliament also elected the members of the Central Electoral Commission which will monitor the presidential elections. Its composition is almost the same as that for the parliamentary elections. Ten of its members are of the SDS, 9 of the BSP and two of the DPS. They will elect the leadership of the commission themselves.

Havel, Slovenia's Kucan Discuss SFRY Problems

LD2011215991 Prague CSTK in English 2125 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Prague Nov 20 (CSTK)—Czechoslovakia wants to be among the first countries to recognise Slovenia, Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel told a press conference here tonight, after talks with Slovenian President Milan Kucan. Kucan paid a one-day visit to Prague at Havel's invitation.

Havel said, however, Czechoslovakia wants first to give a chance to the Hague conference. If only some countries decide after the conference to recognise Slovenia, Czechoslovakia will be among them, he said.

He stressed the importance of a genuine ceasefire in Yugoslavia, as well as respect for the existing borders and rights of minorities. Havel said Czechoslovakia is prepared to sign an economic agreement with Slovenia and will open a general consulate in the Slovenian capital of Ljubljana soon.

Czechoslovak exports to Slovenia in 1990 were worth $98 million, i.e. 19 per cent of Czechoslovakia's overall exports to Yugoslavia.

Kucan called Czechoslovakia's resolve to be among the first countries to recognise Slovenia's independence as very important. Kucan also said he expects German leaders will express themselves on recognising Slovenia when he visits Bonn after leaving Prague. Kucan said "there are forces in Yugoslavia attempting to transfer the war across Yugoslavia's borders". He said Europe must not allow this as it would be a step towards a world war.

Today's talks between Czechoslovak and Slovenian delegations resulted in a joint statement called "initiative to save Dubrovnik". The statement calls for a peace zone to be set up in Dubrovnik and the surrounding area, and recommends that the U.N. peacekeeping forces start their mission in the Dalmatian port city. Dubrovnik has been threatened with destruction as a result of heavy fighting.

Kucan also met with the Archbishop of Prague, Miloslav Vlk, before leaving Czechoslovakia.

Havel Defends Position on Parliamentary Democracy

LD2011220991 Prague Federal 1 Television Network in Czech 1830 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Remarks by President Vaclav Havel during a meeting with students from various higher learning centers at Prague Castle on 20 November—recorded]

[Text] Representatives of 21 institutes of higher learning from Prague, Brno, and Ostrava met in the building of the Chancellor of Czech Technological University in Prague this morning. This is a sort of coordination of national support to the president. The elected delegates of the students left for Prague Castle where they were first received by Chancellor Karel Schwarzenberg and Michael Kocab. In a short while President Vaclav Havel arrived, accompanied by the publicist Pavel Tigrid.

[Havel] My appeal to the citizens did not mean that I wanted to drive a wedge between the citizens and the representative body, to make parliamentary democracy problematic, to appeal to conquer the parliament. On the contrary, the aim was to stimulate the parliament, to press it to speedily discuss the state legislative issues. It is not so important whether it does it directly or indirectly, or whether it modifies them slightly. The crucial thing is that the basic issues of the state legislative setup are dealt with.

The parliament has done a lot of good work. It has adopted about 150 important laws—trade law, commercial law, and various other laws concerning the whole population. Nevertheless, all these good laws which it has adopted would be superfluous if we did not know in what sort of state they would apply or for what sort of state they have been made.

The parliament is also working on the constitution. It is improving the draft and has already prepared its draft of the constitution. Nevertheless, the most important thing is still not settled. My aim was to appeal to the parliament, to wake it up, and make it realize that the situation is getting hotter, that it is serious, that citizens are impatient and fed up, and that even if it had to postpone the bill on waste and the bill on this and that. They are all important and I do not want to make light of them. Yet the most important thing is in what sort of state these laws will be in force, and that it should actually devote itself to the primary issues of the state set-up. The fact is that the national parliaments accepted these issues and talked about a treaty. Their talks did not go well and came to no result. The parliament seemed to be waiting for the national parliaments and did not deal with these issues on its own. Isn't that so?

It is high time as the situation is dangerous. Every five minutes somebody is calling for early elections, and this without knowing what to elect deputies to or according to which election law. It is possible to imagine a situation in which the parliament would be paralyzed, that a section of the deputies might leave the session and it would not be in a position to adopt resolutions. If the parliament is paralyzed or not in session then what happens is that laws are issued in the form of legal provisions of the presidium. We can, however, imagine that if the parliament is paralyzed, its presidium will be paralyzed too and it would also be unable to pass resolutions.

Therefore, I suggested the option of temporarily issuing laws in the forms of decrees. Now I am accused that I am a Pinochet and that I want to take over power and rule by decrees. This is nonsense. We need a safety valve for the situation which we hope will not take place, whereby the parliament is paralyzed and that important laws which it has planned for and has prepared need to be issued. They could then be issued in this form, with the proviso that a newly elected parliament will either endorse them or not.

The referendum might also not be necessary, but there must be an option for having it if the situation becomes such that it will be needed. There must be the option which will make possible to declare it. However, the current law does not make it possible as the parliament cannot agree on the form of the question. Therefore I want to introduce the clause to the effect that the president might declare a referendum if the federal government agrees with it, as this is the mechanism which would make it possible to declare it within a week. Naturally it would take two months as it must be prepared. But this would provide this option which is important and which might be needed.

This was my aim. If I appealed to citizens, I did not appeal to them to make a stand against the parliament but on the contrary to make them remind parliament that it must realize how serious the situation is, that it must become aware of the task which it faces, and that it must deal with these things fast.

It seems to me marvellous to have this support. I did not expect to have such support from the people. It is excellent, especially as I feel that this support is not destructive but it is state-forming.

[Announcer] On the other hand, an open letter from the Christian Democratic Youth to the president of the republic says, among other things, that Vaclav Havel should try to halt the organized campaign against freely elected deputies, in particular against the manipulated protests of high school pupils in the hours when they should be at school. These sorts of pressure methods remind us of various methods of the former regime.

[The letter is] signed Peter Hoffmann, chairman of the Christian Democratic Youth.

Federal Assembly Warns of Questioning Legitimacy

LD2011200691 Prague Federal Television Network in Slovak 1830 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Today the Federal Assembly Presidium discussed President Havel's proposals and the agenda of the meeting of both Chambers to be held in December. In a resolution adopted, the presidium rejected some views held by the public according to which the present parliament is incapable of discharging its legislative function. According to CSTK reporters, members of the Federal Assembly Presidium insist on President Vaclav Havel attending their meeting today. Ladislav Spacek, an editor, has just returned from the parliament and he already has the text of the resolution at his disposal. Good evening.

[Spacek, in Czech] Good evening. The meeting of the presidium of the parliament ended less than an hour ago. I have in front of me the resolution from which I will now give the following excerpts:

The presidium agrees with the view that it is necessary to speed up the preparation of new constitutions. As soon as the legislative proposals of the president of the republic are submitted—which has not yet happened—after discussions in the committees and after both national councils take their stand on them, they will become the subject of a debate at a joint session which will make a decision on them with final validity.

The view has been heard in the public debate that the present Federal Assembly is not capable of discharging its legislative function. It emerges from the entire existing activity of the parliament that this view is mistaken. During the 17 months since the election the Federal Assembly has passed all bills submitted that are necessary for the transformation of our society.

In this connection the presidium emphatically warns against attempts to question the legitimacy of the Federal Assembly. The freely elected Federal Assembly is, along with the national councils, the bearer of democratic legitimacy from which the legitimacy of the government and the president of the republic is derived. Doubts about the legitimacy of the parliament could degenerate into questioning the parliamentary system in our country in general.

I would also like to add the following to the report on the president's visit to the parliament. The president is engaged tonight in a state visit of the Slovene president. The meeting of the presidium will therefore resume at 0900 tomorrow, with President Vaclav Havel attending.

'Right-Wing' Parties Begin Coalition Talks

LD2111031491 Prague CSTK in English 1536 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Prague Nov 20 (CSTK)—The Czech Republic's Civic Democratic Alliance (ODA) and Slovakia's Civic Democratic Union-Public Against Violence (ODU-VPN) started talks today on forming a pre-election coalition, an ODA representative told CSTK. Other pro-federation right-wing parties could be asked to join the coalition, the representative said.

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Meeting today with a member of the ODA leadership, Czechoslovak Economics Minister Vladimir Dlouhy, Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel hailed the coalition as the first to be formed across republic lines and said it could help stabilise the political situation in Czechoslovakia.

Havel Interviewed on Czech-Slovak Relations

AU2011153891 Bratislava SMENA in Slovak 16 Nov 91 pp 1, 2

[Second installment of an interview with CSFR President Vaclav Havel by Robert Kotian and Karol Jezik on 13 November; place not given: "I Do Not Have To Think Anything Else"]

[Text] After the first part of the interview with President Vaclav Havel on 14 November, we are publishing the last part of the interview today. We appreciate the fact that the president was willing to discuss any topic with us. Let us hope that with his inherent sense of balance, which is a fundamental prerequisite for democracy, he will also answer questions from our readers sometime in the future.

[SMENA] You are known to the world as a playwright and a man who resists totalitarian power. How do you, a former member of the opposition and critic of authorities, come to terms with your own power?

[Havel] This is an issue that I quite frequently ponder. Of course, the status of someone holding political office is different from that of an independent intellectual. An intellectual can write what he wants without the consequences caused by a man in office. However, this does not mean that power would make a man think differently from the way he would think if he did not have that power. Power forces him to behave a little differently, adhere to certain forms, weigh his words more carefully, and respect the opinions of others to a larger degree. I do not believe that power fundamentally makes a man think differently or strive for something different than what he would strive for if he did not have that power. Of course, power is linked to a wide spectrum of temptations to which it is easy to succumb. I cannot judge it myself—others should—but I believe that I do not succumb to these temptations. Above all, in order to retain power, I do not succumb to the temptation to say something different from what I think or pursue something other than what I want.

[SMENA] You took over your presidential office with the idea that ethics and politics are not mutually exclusive. Are you still of this opinion today?

[Havel] This opinion seems to me even more applicable today. I am in top-level politics and I realize that sometimes it is very difficult to make peace with one's own conscience, yet I know that it is important. It is easy to make demands on politicians—demands stemming from the idea that politics is some sort of morality in action and care for your neighbors, and that politics means being responsible to someone or to a whole. It is much easier for an independent intellectual sitting in his armchair to make such demands on politicians than it is to put them into practice. However, I still stand behind this idea and I even see that I have a number of reasons for continuing to stand behind it in the future.

[SMENA] Can you describe your disappointments during the two years of your presidency and tell us how great they were?

[Havel] The common denominator of all my disappointments is the fact that everything is going slower than I anticipated. Everything is being put into practice gradually and, in the end, what we hoped would happen, will happen—however, much later than we expected. All this involves desperate labors—be it on the constitutional setup, or on the economic, or political culture.

[SMENA] After November 1989, negative phenomena flourished—the crime rate rose, and the decline in morality has been accompanied by chauvinism, anti-Semitism, and racism in the entire republic. Are we still too immature to be able to absorb freedom or does the reason lie somewhere else?

[Havel] Phenomena such as a higher crime rate, intolerance, xenophobia, and enmity are very alarming and dangerous and we must pay maximum attention to them. At the same time, we can understand where they come from and what their background is. They appeared in other countries where authoritarian regimes collapsed—for example in Spain. A sudden explosion of freedom also caused a temporary explosion in civic irresponsibility. It is a concomitant phenomenon of a shock brought about by freedom and the loss of previously existing certainties and restraints. Some social strata feel shunted to the sidelines and since all the rules are changing, they have the feeling of being disoriented and misunderstood. This very often leads to a search for scapegoats—the culprits responsible for their uncertainty—or to an increasing feeling that they can do anything they like since the authoritarian times have come to an end. Obviously, these are accompanying characteristics of the transitional phase in the whole of society. It is a characteristic feature of all post communist regimes. Of course, my explanation does not mean that I am trying to justify it. We must act energetically against such phenomena.

[SMENA] Slovakia's image in the world is not good. Do you consider this image to be an objective depiction of Slovakia?

[Havel] It is difficult to say exactly what Slovakia's image is or how such an image is created. However, I know one thing. I am becoming more and more convinced of it every day, and I have said it many times. A good image of any nation is created only on the basis of its good performance and actions that gain general respect and authority. From this point of view, Peter Dvorsky, simply by being knowledgeable and a Slovak, does infinitely more for the creation of Slovakia's good image and the awareness of Slovakia's existence than someone who constantly says: I am a Slovak, pay attention to me! This alone does not interest anyone. People should know that national existence has a certain content and that this content reflects performance.

[SMENA] The apathy of many people is such that they cannot see a way out of the situation. Unemployment and decline in living standards are consequences that people in the streets in November 1989 did not anticipate. What kind of positive motivation, a motivation that would be a motivation "for," not "against," can you offer to people?

[Havel] This is a very difficult question since telling people that they must make sacrifices, that they must

suffer because of prices and unemployment that are too high only because there is a better tomorrow is not very convincing. The communists said that for 40 years. We have one advantage over the communist regime. We do not offer anything that does not exist anywhere else, or that no one has tested, or that no one has had any success with. We do not offer some idealistic vision, but we draw on experience acquired in many countries—something that has already been tested. We want something that has been tested in many countries. It is not simply a nice dream. It is a matter of proven values. History has shown, and we can see it again and again, that ownership relations must be made clear, that there must be someone who is responsible for all that, and that a competitive environment must be created in order to make enterprises manufacture products that they are able to sell. It is clear that we must constantly explain these problems and point to individual instances when enterprises have started to function that way in our country. This requires sensitive economic and social policy pursuing a fast transformation of the economy, yet a policy that simultaneously takes into account problems of the microsphere—regions and enterprises. On the other hand, we must say that, compared with other countries—or in view of what we could possibly expect—our people bear the accompanying features of transformation quite bravely.

[SMENA] Your critical stance on the screening law is quite well known. Are you not also responsible, to a certain degree, for the fact that our society was unable to deal with something that the law is supposed to solve today, a law that you yourself are questioning?

[Havel] I do not feel that I alone have created this situation by making a political decision, that is, a situation in which we are desperately struggling with the task of settling accounts with our past. Of course, everyone is more clever with hindsight and I can easily figure out that I could and should have done many things better, yet, maybe at that time, I could not. Only now do I know that I could. For example I believe that it was a big mistake—which, under the circumstances, we were unable to anticipate and understand because we did not have enough experience—that when we were establishing the government for the first time, we did not appoint a really strong personality to the office of federal interior minister, that we did not appoint someone who would have some understanding of complex problems and, at the same time, energetically prevent the destruction of files and invent a system for handling the documents, and so forth. In fact, the worst things happened at the time when we did not have an interior minister, which unfortunately complicated the entire situation.

[SMENA] After a victorious fight, new and unknown fighters emerge in order to claim the glory. Where are the roots of this, what do you think?

[Havel] This phenomenon has its own tradition in the Czechoslovak milieu. I can observe this particularly in the Czech milieu, which I know slightly better. It is a strange mechanism—actually, some people try to somewhat soothe their consciences by showing their own radicalism after the battle has been won by someone else. All of a sudden, they compensate for their previous passivity or loyalty and become great avengers. In the Czech lands, we could see it clearly after the World War II, in particular when savage avengers were not headed by members of the resistance who had actually opposed the occupation and made real sacrifices. A group of people suddenly emerged about whom no one knew anything, who may have silently and loyally manufactured weapons for the German reich, and who decorated themselves with tricolors only after the war. They started an act of national revenge, or historical justice. We can see a replica of this bad phenomenon in a weaker and more cultivated form today.

ODU-PAV Reacts Positively to Havel Speech

AU2011155491 Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak 19 Nov 91 p 2

[Civic Democratic Union-Public Against Violence [ODU-PAV] statement on CSFR President Vaclav Havel's television address on 17 November: "The Constitutional Status Quo Remains Unchanged"]

[Text] Civic Democratic Union-Public Against Violence is of the same opinion [as Havel] that the talks between the two National Councils have failed and that tension and uncertainty about the future are growing in our society. Since the Federal Assembly has not passed the bill on holding referendums, the Federal Constitutional Court does not have authority—until a new federal constitution is adopted—to pass judgment on whether the adopted Federal Assembly constitutional laws and those of the National Councils contradict each other. Political parties in the Federal Assembly and the Slovak National Council are unable to reach agreement, preventing a constitutional or political solution so far. This also is a consequence of deputies of several parties and movements abandoning their election programs, as far as the constitutional setup is concerned.

However, the constitutional status quo ensures that the federation and both republics continue to function.

We believe that the proposals by President Vaclav Havel are possible constitutional steps leading to the solution of the deadlock in the Federal Assembly and in the Slovak National Council.

We will support the passage of the constitutional bills proposed by the CSFR president.

The proposal that the president be allowed to decide that a referendum on the constitutional setup be held was a part of the original referendum bill.

We believe that the possibility of dissolving parliament, if it becomes incapable of functioning and of continuing the legislative process, is real insurance against such cases.

The draft amendment to the constitution stating that it should come into force only after it is ratified by both National Councils is based on the political agreement reached by parliamentary parties in Kromeriz and is in conformity with the talks between the National Council Presidiums. Its possible rejection would mean that individual political parties had withdrawn from these agreements. On the other hand, its adoption would open the avenue toward an agreement between the National Council Presidiums.

The amendment to the constitution concerning the structure of the legislative body of the federation is needed for holding elections to this body. It is also necessary to adopt a new law on elections to federal bodies.

The behavior of political parties during the debate and voting on constitutional laws proposed by the CSFR president on 17 November 1991 will clarify their goals regarding the constitutional setup and their attitudes toward the future.

KDH Official Comments on Havel's Crisis Appeal

AU2011134891 Bratislava SLOVENSKY DENNIK in Slovak 19 Nov pp 1, 2

[Interview with Jan Petrik, executive deputy chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement, for the "Radiojournal" newscast; place and date not given: "From the Reactions to President V. Havel's Initiative"]

[Excerpt] [Petrik] I consider this initiative an effort to confine this fermentation to a certain legal framework, in which the president would be the chief arbiter. We will evaluate his proposals and provide a commentary, which will be binding to a certain extent.

[Radiojournal] At this time, can you tell whether there is anything in the president's speech that is, let us say, unacceptable for the Christian Democratic Movement [KDH]?

[Petrik] A government by decrees issue is, I believe, unacceptable.

[Radiojournal] President Havel proposed five laws for approval. Do you believe that the Federal Assembly could accept these bills and pass them?

[Petrik] I believe that it would be very difficult for the parliament, as things stand now, to accept these proposals. I would like to draw attention to one of his speeches, delivered to the Federal Assembly in September, in which he complied with Slovak demands for the powers of the federal government to be reduced to only three areas—defense, currency, and foreign policy—with the proviso that other matters would then develop that would have to be dealt with on the federal level. I would like to point out that Czech politicians should carefully study these presidential proposals and try to apply them to the new Czechoslovak constitutional arrangement. This would also result in a certain confidence on the Slovak side, and the implementation of the president's initiative would not be necessary. We see only one priority. The draft treaty between the two republics must be pushed through. Therefore, even after such a referendum, the Slovaks and the Czechs must meet again and negotiate, and I cannot very well imagine who else, which other representatives, would meet for the talks following the referendum. There are only the current representatives. Therefore, I emphasize talks, be they between the national council presidiums or governments.

[Radiojournal] President Havel cited party discipline as one of the causes of the current crisis. What is your opinion?

[Petrik] It may be an exaggerated notion of party discipline. Party discipline is a result of a certain will of the movement's or party's members. Hence, if somebody feels that the Christian Democratic Movement deputies respect some party discipline, then it is respect not for party discipline, but rather the views of the citizens who elected them.

[Radiojournal] Do you agree with the opinion of President Havel that more is at stake now than two years ago?

[Petrik] Yes, definitely more, if we give in to our feelings—be it maintaining the federation at any cost, or breaking the federation at any cost, both extremes are very dangerous—such destabilization might mean that no law would be passed that could settle the situation, and, likewise, if laws were hastily adopted, we would tie our own hands and become victims of our own goodwill. [passage omitted]

Civic Movement Discusses Election Strategy

AU1911174591 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 18 Nov 91 p 2

["(JAS, DR)"-signed report: "A Rhapsody in Blue and Yellow"]

[Text] Prague—The Civic Movement's [OH] policy will continue to be based on the principles of democracy and modern liberalism. It wants to represent the pragmatic center, not, of course, by proceeding from the mythology of the right and left wings, but by erecting a barrier to extremes of all kinds. Despite certain endeavors, it will continue to be a "party movement" with the attribute "civic" and will go into the elections with blue and yellow colors and a program to create a society of free and entrepreneurial people.

These are the conclusions reached at the first regular OH Republican Assembly held in Prague's Lucerna Hall and attended by more than 400 delegates from Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia until late in the evening of 16 November. In his introductory speech, OH Chairman J. Dienstbier presented the "image" with which he wants the movement to enter the elections. The OH's symbol will be a blue rippling H inserted into a yellow circle and its flower will be the perennial Czech cornflower. According to the movement, blue and yellow are free-thinking and liberal colors.

This was followed by a party routine lasting for several hours in which representatives from the political elite and several Czech and federal ministers (only D. Buresova and K. Korinkova were absent) made speeches one after the other until late in the afternoon. J. Dienstbier delivered the key address. He stated that the OH's only enemy is totalitarianism, including its vestiges in each of us. He dealt at length with the screening law. He said that the OH had initiated its adoption and that the federal government had unanimously adopted a democratic version of the law. The version finally adopted by parliament is, according to J. Dienstbier, at variance with the international agreements on human rights. "The screening law will not fulfill the people's hopes that the old structures will be eliminated. The real mafiosi were seldom so stupid as to waste their precious time in the People's Militia or in more senior party functions." He also stated that many State Security staff quite unjustifiably entered into their registers the names of citizens who had never been agents.

When he spoke about the constitutional and legal arrangement, he declared that the OH will do everything in its power to preserve the joint state. "The joint state is our greatest certainty, which we should preserve in our own interest." The OH considers the Civic Democratic Union-Public Against Violence Party, whose representatives merely greeted the assembly in a telegram, to be its natural partner in Slovakia.

Preserving the joint state was also the maxim of the speeches delivered by Deputy Chairmen P. Pithart and P. Rychetsky and in which they stressed their support for reform. However, Minister J. Vavrousek pointed out that moral aspects must come first in the transformation of society.

All the discussions at the assembly were oriented toward the OH's election strategy. Not only ideas, but also financial guarantees were discussed. According to the published budget, the OH is devoting approximately 100 million korunas to the election campaign, money it wants to acquire from contributions (including those conducted abroad) and via a loan from the state.

Klaus Outlines Aims of Budget Policy

LD2111085791 Bratislava Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech 1730 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Three ministers of finance, Vaclav Klaus, Jozed Danco, and Karel Spacek met in Bratislva today to discuss the principles of budget policy of the federation and the two republics for the next year.

Shortly after 1700 Vaclav Klaus gave journalists the first information on the talks of the so-called small financial council which is taking place behind closed doors:

[Begin Klaus recording] Our talks were very positively influenced by this morning's statement of the Slovak Government and therefore we were able to leave aside the external politically or otherwise motivated issues and devote ourselves really to economic issues. [passage omitted]

We came to the following figures which might interest you: We unfortunately expect further real decline in the gross domestic product of 3-6 percent for 1992 and we envisage general inflation to be between 12-15 percent, that is, around one percent a month. This is not a high figure and we would be glad if it was interpreted in this way.

We have three targets for our budget—please note the change in their order:

The first aim is to minimize the decline in economic activity—that is, it is not our first aim to continue to moderate the inflation which is really only our aim number two. I am saying this deliberately and take it as a shift in our thinking and a shift in what we emphasize.

The third aim is to continue with the (?transformation of impact) of the budget and to try not to increase the proportion of public budgets in the gross domestic product. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Antall Phones Markovic To Discuss SFRY Crisis

LD2111094991 Budapest MTI in English 0833 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] Budapest, November 21 (MTI)—Worries over damages caused by the Yugoslav civil war to values belonging to the world heritage and over a stepped-up mobilization of the Hungarian minority were reportedly expressed by Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall in a telephone conversation with his Yugoslav counterpart Ante Markovic Wednesday night. Talking to Markovic, Antall repeatedly outlined Hungary's views on the Yugoslav crisis, the Hungarian prime minister's press office reported.

Attempts at removing him from his post are fully illegitimate and illegal, Markovic said. He expressed disagreement with mobilization measures of the Yugoslav Army. In the conversation, Antall spoke highly of Markovic's personal courage.

Goncz Comments on Yugoslav Crisis on UK Visit

AU2111093891 Budapest MTI in English 1313 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Budapest 19 Nov (MTI)—"Yugoslavia requires a solution in which all parties feel themselves as winners, otherwise the region will become a hotbed of endless tension", Hungarian President Arpad Goncz told British journalists today, the second working day of his visit to Britain.

"Fighting has reached the limit of human tolerance in Yugoslavia. Emphasis should now be on humanitarian considerations. The people of Vukovar and Dubrovnik need assistance", the president said.

"The new NATO role is still too unclear to discuss any security guarantee with British Prime Minister Major on Monday", he said.

Concerning Hungarian-Ukrainian relations, Goncz said the minority protection agreement to be signed with the Ukraine will be a regional model.

Goncz also asked British journalists to write about Hungary, an island of stability, so it is not mistaken for the crisis zones of the region.

Further Reports on Visit

WA1911155291

For reportage on the visit by President Arpad Goncz and Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky to the United Kingdom, including talks with Prime Minister John Major and Lord Carrington, president of the Hague peace conference, please see the United Kingdom section of the 18 November West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Underground Seismic Test Conducted at Paks

LD2011221891 Budapest MTI in English 1405 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Budapest, November 20 (MTI)—A seismic test involving underground explosions was carried out near Hungary's single nuclear power plant in Paks on Tuesday and Wednesday. The explosions were aimed at generating minor quakes, enabling experts to check the reaction of buildings and equipment in the area.

The test was conducted at sites two, respectively three kilometres from the project, and involved 300 and 450 kgs of explosives. The energy generated in this way was equal to one millionth of that which might be measured for the biggest earthquake which would not immediately endanger the nuclear power plant.

Similar tests were carried out twice before: The first one took place in the 1960's, before construction, and the second in 1985 when the plant was planned to be expanded by a further two blocs.

Finance Ministry Analyzes State Budget Deficit

LD2011221491 Budapest MTI in English 1312 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Budapest, November 20 (MTI-ECONEWS)—Hungary's state budget ran up a deficit of 96.2 billion forints in the first ten months of 1991, a Hungarian Finance Ministry analysis reveals.

This consists of a central bank credit of 45 billion forints, signed state bonds worth 4.6 billion forints, and an increase to the tune of 39.1 billion forints in the amount of treasury bills. The remainder of the deficit was financed by a temporary drop in liquid means. The proportion of sources involved from the capital market showed a considerable increase.

Signing for the 15 billion forints' worth of state bonds issued under the 1991 state budget law started on October 1 and will close at the end of November. The issue and signing are being handled by a consortium of 18 financial institutions and securities trading companies lead-managed by the National Bank of Hungary (NBH). Consortium members have guaranteed signing of the entire amount, meaning that 15 billion forints will definitely come in from the state bond issue. The state bonds will be issued on December 1, and introduced onto the Budapest stock exchange in mid-December.

Preliminary figures show that the proportion of private investors who had signed and paid up for the state bonds by the end of October did not reach 10 per cent.

The amount of treasury bills in circulation continued to grow in October, the rate picking up further on September, and reached 49.3 billion forints by the end of the tenth month. The stock of variable-interest treasury bills issued on July 1 reached 7.3 billion forints by the end of October, an increase of 2.2 billion forints last month.

Discount treasury bills were worth 27.5 billion forints at the end of October, with a sudden rise during the tenth month. The stock increased by a total of 19.5 billion forints over ten months.

The sudden spurt in October was due to a recent agreement between the National Bank of Hungary, the Ministry of Finance and the Banking Association aimed at reducing excess liquidity in the Hungarian economy: Commercial banks purchased discount treasury bills of a 3-month maturity, worth over 20 billion forints at nominal value, outside auctions in the middle of October.

The papers yield an annual 29.2 per cent, 5 percentage points below the average yield of papers auctioned prior to the buy-up. This bulk purchase outside auctions accounted for the drop in the sale of discount treasury bills at October auctions.

Statistics on Economic Performance Issued

AU1911163891 Budapest UJ MAGYARORSZAG in Hungarian 16 Nov 91 p 6

[Laszlo Doczy's report: "Decreasing Production—Improving Balance of Payments—Slower Decrease in Hungary's Population"]

[Text] According to the latest economic figures, the processes that emerged in the previous year have continued and developed in the first eight months of 1991. Regarding it from the viewpoint of production and consumption, we can notice a drop in economic performance. According to the latest analyses, the subsistence minimum is similar to the average income in the case of several household types. Our demographic statistics are negative, but the extent of our demographic drop decreased this year, compared to the previous year. All this transpires from the latest figures made public at a news conference on 15 November by Gyorgy Vukovich, chairman of the Central Statistical Office [KSH].

Hungary's industrial production dropped by 16.6 percent in the first nine months of 1991, compared with the same period last year, including a 18.8 percent drop in the case of economic units employing more than 50 people. The biggest drop occurred in the production of basic materials sectors, but the processing industry that makes up amost two-thirds of the overall industrial production also dropped its production by 21.1 percent. Textile industry and food industry production dropped less, under 19 percent. The performance of the energy sector only dropped by 4.3 percent, but this was due to the fact that the increase in the production of mining industry and of the natural gas and electric energy sectors curbed the drop in mineral oil production.

Industrial units sold 17.3 percent fewer products than in the first eight months of 1990. In addition to the limits in our export possibilities, our domestic sales decreased, too, and in addition to the drop in demand the rapid increase in imports also played a significat role in this. For example, our domestic trade purchased only half the quantity of products manufactured by the domestic producers, compared with last year. Our economy's energy consumption dropped by 4.7 percent, compared with last year. While the energy consumption in industry dropped by 12.9 percent, the energy consumption among the population increased by 6.2 percent. Retail trade turnover that represents the overall population consumption dropped by more than 20 percent. Investments dropped by more than 10 percent, compared with the first nine months of 1990. The amount of exported goods also dropped in the first eight months of 1991, compared with the same period last year.

In our foreign trade turnover, we had a simultaneous decrease in exports and an increase in imports. Together with a significant deterioration in our terms of trade, all this led to a considerable turnover deficit. (Beginning with this year, the accounting system of the trade between former CEMA countries has changed, and the new accounting in U.S. dollars greatly deteriorated the terms of trade developed over a long time.)

Statistics showing the real processes in our economy and statistics on our financial processes, primarily the balance of payments, continue to present a different trend, and this is not without precedence in the international practice. According to the Hungarian National Bank, accounted in convertible currency, the current balance of payments for the first month showed a surplus, as opposed to the expected considerable deficit. At the same time, according to Finance Ministry statistics, our budget deficit for the first nine months of this year stood at 87.5 billion forints, thus exceeding the planned deficit of 78.8 billion forints.

Several responsible economic leaders criticized the accuracy of official statistics recently. According to the KSH statistics, our GDP in 1990 dropped by 4 percent, compared with 1989. According to the aforementioned critics, our economy was characterized by stagnation instead and, according to some opinion, our GDP even increased in that period. In connection with this, Gyorgy Vukovic pointed out that the GDP is the overall indicator of our economic activity and, as a result of the varied and controversial processes of our economy, this indicator only reflects our economy's size and trends. Contrary to some claims, these statistics take into consideration the activity of all the small, intermediate, and large economic units operating in Hungary, on the basis of their tax declarations. The KSH corrects these statistics on the points where they think of the possibility of incorrect supply of information. Despite the increase in the number of small ventures, the activity of intermediate and large enterprises continues to be decisive, and one can clearly see a drop in this activity.

Consumer prices in September this year were 34 percent higher than in the same time last year. Within this, food prices increased by 16.5 percent, the prices of beverages and tobacco increased by 19.1 percent, and clothing prices increased by 31.8 percent. Heating and household energy prices almost doubled and increased by 96.7 per

cent, and the prices of durable consumer goods increased by 31 percent—or 41 percent if we consider the repairs. The prices of other industrial goods, including fuel, increased by 42 percent, and the price of services increased by 45.9 percent, compared with the same period last year. Housing expenses—like rents, construction materials, energy, and water fees—increased by 47.4 percent, and transportation expenses increased by 54.9 percent, compared with last September prices. It also transpires from the KSH statistics that the increase in consumer prices slowed from January to August (from 7.5 percent to 0.2 percent), but it accelerated in September and made up 1.5 percent and, considering the fact that the heating season has begun, we expect a further increase in October.

The KSH issued subsistence level values calculated for the most common types of households. (Subsistence calculation attempts to define the monthly net amount that a household needs to survive on a humble level that is still acceptable by society.) According to this, the subsistence level of an adult of working age is 10,638 forints in towns and 9,768 forints in villages. The susbsistence level of an adult of working age with one child is 16,285 forints in towns and 15,334 forints in villages. The KSH calculated 24,757 forints in towns and 22,791 forints in villages for two adults of working age with one child. In the case of two children, the same figures are 29,907 forints in towns and 28,235 forints in villages, and in the case of three children, the figures are 33,905 forints in towns and 31,864 forints in villages. The subsistence level of single pensioner households is 7,810 forints in towns and 7,187 forints in villages. In the case of households consisting of two pensioners, these amounts are 13,438 forints in towns and 12,110 forints in villages.

These figures are a few thousand forints less than the subsistence values published by the Ujpest Family Aid Center a few days ago. As the KSH officials pointed out, this is mainly derived from the fact that the Ujpest Center used expenses in Budapest which exceed the average expenses in towns, and it took the October price level as a basis, which was higher than the September level. According to estimates, approximately 1 million people live below subsistence level in Hungary today.

The number of Hungarian people continues to decrease as it has for 10 years, although the size of decrease was smaller in the first eight months of 1991 than in the same period in 1990. At the end of August 1991, the estimated size of the population of Hungary was 10,344,000 people. The natural decrease of the population was 10,976 people in the first eight months of 1991. The number of live births somewhat increased, and the death rate decreased at the same time. Average life expectancy at birth is 69.3 years. This figure is 65.1 years in the case of women and 73.7 years in the case of men. Life expectancy is one of the lowest among industrial countries with developed health culture.

Spokesman Confirms Cabinet To Resign 25 Nov

LD2111113791 Warsaw PAP in English 1014 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 21—The Thursday issue of the Warsaw daily RZECZPOSPOLITA quoted the spokesman for the government as saying that the cabinet of Jan Krzysztof Bielecki would resign on November 25, at the first meeting of the new Sejm (Lower House) as the prime minister had announced earlier.

"Such is a constitutional custom," spokesman Andrzej Zarebski told the daily. According to him, the announcement of the resignation was not the topic of the recent talk between the president and the prime minister. Zarebski refused to answer whether Jan Krzysztof Bielecki changed his mind as to the possibility of his running for the prime ministerial office.

Despite the resignation, Bielecki's cabinet will continue to work until a new government is formed though, according to Zarebski, the situation is quite difficult. "It is not proper for the outgoing cabinet to make certain decisions, for example personal ones," he told the daily.

5-Party Coalition, Democratic Union Hold Talks

LD2011231191 Warsaw PAP in English 2218 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 20—The coalition of five centre right parties and the Democratic Union (UD) met for talks on Wednesday concerning mainly appointments to the posts of Sejm (lower house) and Senate speakers and necessary changes in the Sejm regulations. The parties presented their stands on the issues but failed to reach any settlements. It is still unknown whether another meeting will be held before the first Sejm sitting scheduled for November 25.

Piotr Nowina-Konopka of the Democratic Union said after the meeting it was the crucial issue that a representative of the largest parliamentary caucus grouping over 80 (UD) deputies and senators should hold the office of Sejm speaker.

Donald Tusk of the Liberal Democratic Congress stated there was a "spirit of conciliation on all sides" and described this as "the fairly good beginning for further talks" but denied the possibility of a coalition of "six".

Also Andrzej Wielowieyski of the Democratic Union ruled out the coalition of his party with the five centre right parties, that is the Centre Alliance (PC), the Liberal Democratic Congress (KL-D), the Christian National Union (ZCH-N), the Confederation for Independent Poland (KPN), and the Peasant Agreement (PL).

KPN leader Leszek Moczulski disclosed some details on the meeting saying that the Democratic Union wanted four Sejm deputy speakers while the coalition opted for five. "If a UD candidate becomes speaker, the union will have to agree to three or four our deputy speakers. We tried to clear up who would be acceptable to both sides," he said.

On Tuesday the Democratic Union put forward the candidature of Olga Krzyzanowska for the Sejm speaker, while the coalition had earlier proposed Wieslaw Chrzanowski of the Christian National Union for the post.

Later on Wednesday UD leader Tadeusz Mazowiecki met with the centre right candidate for prime minister, Jan Olszewski at the latter's initiative.

Krzysztof Snopinski of the UD press office said the talk covered the political situation in Poland and issues connected with the beginning of the new parliament's term of office. No further details on the meeting were disclosed.

No talks between the centre right coalition and presidential plenipotentiary Mieczyslaw Wachowski were held on Wednesday. According to presidential spokesman Andrzej Drzycimski "Minister Wachowski is waiting for a signal from the "five", but apparently he has received none so far.

Commenting on the possibility of the Wachowski-centre right talks, Marek Dziubek, elected chairman of the Centre Alliance caucus on Wednesday, said that "top officials, that is the president, should participate in developments crucial for the state."

Citizens Committees for Olszewski as Prime Minister

AU2111132891 Warsaw PAP in English 2106 GMT 17 Nov 91

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 17—A conference of the national citizens' committees debating in Warsaw on Sunday supported lawyer Jan Olszewski as the candidate for the office of prime minister proposed recently by five centre-right political groupings—the Liberal Democratic Congress (KLD), the Confederation for Independent Poland (KPN), the Centre Alliance (PC), the Christian National Union (ZCHN), and the Peasant Agreement (PL).

The conference considered Olszewski a guarantor of "halting the economic decline" and of rejecting the "thick line" policy which gave privileged position to the communist nomenklatura members.

Olszewski himself said in a half-hour address that there would be no conflict between the president and the Sejm (lower house) over the formation of the cabinet and denounced press speculations on the distribution of portfolios planned by the coalition as "voluntary press subversion" harming the nascent democracy in Poland.

The conference also supported the stance of the electoral republican coalition demanding de-legalization of the post-communist party SDRP [Social Democracy of the Polish Republic], canceling the mandates won by the SDRP-led Left Alliance, and holding by-elections in connection with the reports on financial dealings between the SDRP and the Soviet Communist Party, CPSU.

Center Alliance Elects Parliamentary Group Leader

LD2011201491 Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network in Polish 1500 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] A meeting has been held of the Center Alliance parliamentary floor group. Marek Dziubek has been elected leader of the group. Apart from the Center Alliance, the 52-strong group also includes deputies representing the Citizens' Committees and the Patrimony [Ojcowizna] group. Marek Dziubek told journalists that the group will have an open formula. Deputies elected from other lists who were unable to set up own parliamentary group can also join.

Christian Union Names Conditions for Government

AU2111134291 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 18 Nov 91 p 2

['K. Gr.' report: "The ZChN Discusses The Future Government"]

[Text] Jan Lopuszczanski, chairman of the Executive Council of the Christian National Union [ZChN], presented conditions for the new government at a news conference on Saturday [16 November].

This should be a government that will achieve a breakthrough in abandoning the socialist system in favor of a market economy and private ownership, he said. This government should replace state cadres, bring to trial those guilty of crimes against the state, pursue a policy of economic revival without putting empty money into circulation, lay the foundations of a permanent social policy, and establish church-state relations on the basis of cooperation and a repect for Poland's Catholic identity. This government should also base Polish foreign policy on Polish national interests.

These, Lopuszczanski continued, are the conditions for the ZChN's participation in the new government. "However, if they are not fulfilled, we will not necessarily act to overthrow the government," he noted. But ZChN leader Wieslaw Chrzanowski told RZECZPOSPOLITA that these are not actually conditions the ZChN demands of the new government, but merely a "set of values to which the union professes."

Peasant Party Discusses Government Formation

AU2111142891 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 18 Nov 91 p 2

[Ewa K. Czaczkowska report: "The PSL Wants To Form a Government"]

[Text] Meeting on 16 November for the first time since the elections, the Supreme Council of the Polish Peasant Party [PSL] committed the party's authorities to nominate candidates for ministerial posts in the new government, including prime minister, in case the five center-right parties fail in their task to form a government. The Executive Council of the PSL will probably meet next Wednesday to consider candidates.

The Supreme Council said that the present talks on choosing a new government and prime minister are "nothing but a political contest and a series of political disputes" because the debate on forming a parliamentary majority and government should be centered on the economic program, the aim of which should be to stop the disintegration of the state and then redevelop it gradually. PSL Chairman Waldemar Pawlak said that in the process of forming the new government, some political groups are abandoning their election manifestos.

"Everything seems to indicate that the present economic policies will be continued, albeit under a different guise," said Pawlak.

The Executive Council also instructed the party authorities to nominate Jozef Zych as candidate for the post of Sejm speaker, and to appoint PSL deputies to the chairmanship of the Sejm agricultural, local government, and social policy commissions. The council also placed PSL deputies under an obligation to "call Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki to task for failing to implement the Sejm August resolution instructing the government to introduce minimum prices for milk and grain by 30 October." The PSL authorities also want the government to publish a report on the state of the nation "describing the positive and negative results of its 10-month tenure."

Chairman Pawlak, satisfied with the election result, said that the PSL's position in the international arena will be difficult.

In the opinion of PSL honorary chairman Tadeusz Nowak, "the struggle against the PSL will continue." Other speakers said that the PSL would be forced into a left-wing opposition position.

Treasury To Take Over Remaining PZPR Assets

LD2111030991 Warsaw PAP in English 1004 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 20—The majority of real estate, almost no money and possibly some companies that were owned by the Polish United Workers Party (PUWP—[PZPR in vernacular]) before its self-dissolution on 29 January, 1990 will eventually be taken over by the State Treasury, according to a report submitted by the liquidator of the party's assets to the government Tuesday.

Data from the report, quoted by Wednesday's GAZETA WYBORCZA newspaper, show that of the 53 buildings and plots of land owned by the PUWP, 32 have already been taken over by the state, and there are good chances that court litigation concerning the remaining property will end in its granting to the Treasury.

Things look quite the opposite as far as financial means owned by the PUWP are concerned. Of the total of US dlrs 10 m, zlotys 6.6 bn and rbl 1,300 in PUWP bank accounts on the day of the dissolution, only zlotys 44 m remained by 27 February, 1991, the day when the act on liquidation of PUWP assets became effective. The difference was spent by PUWP's successor, the Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland (SDRP).

The report says that the PUWP held stakes in 36 companies, 4 cooperatives, and 10 other economic entities. So far the liquidator has recovered the assets of 3 companies and 19 more cases are in law courts. In some cases there was no point in attempting to take over a company due to its large indebtedness.

It will take some more time before questions linked to the liquidation of assets of puwp-owned companies are settled, the report says.

Iliescu Addresses Constituent Assembly in Message

AU1911200991 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1807 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 19/11/1991—The Constituent Assembly's Committee and the leaders of the parliamentary groups held one-hour discussions, before plenary debates started on Tuesday, 19 November, on the way in which the adoption is made of proposals for a more exact correlation and wording of a number of articles in Romania's constitution. Dan Martian, the speaker of the Assembly of Deputies, read a message President Ion Iliescu had addressed to the Constituent Assembly.

The decision was taken that the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly be halted up to 6.00 P.M. Meanwhile the president's message is going to be analyzed and a strategy be elaborated by all political parties in their activity of endorsing the constitution by articles and as a whole.

In his appeal launched to Romania's Parliament on November 19, President Ion Iliescu appreciates that "the Constituent Assembly has carried out a laborious activity and—despite the numerous contradictory, sometimes stormy discussions which are inevitable in a democratic debate—elaborated a text of the constitution which meets the requirements of a contemporary state of law."

"This text is the joint work of the entire parliament, of all political formations represented in the Constituent Assembly," President Iliescu said considering that "it would be a pity that this laborious, constructive work be darkened by temporary passions."

Starting from the fact that "the principles of democracy and of the state of law involve the ensurance and the full observance of both the majority's and the minorities' rights," President Iliescu further stresses:

"The fact that the national minorities' rights to use their mother tongue and to freely express their ethnic characteristics were written down in the draft constitution does not mean a yielding or a concession made by the majority but it represents a basic feature of the democratic spirit, a firm framework for a stable coexistence in full unity, mutual esteem and understanding.

"The extremist stands in this field cannot but bring damages both internally—by feeding up mutual suspicions and unconfidence—and internationally."

In conclusion, President Ion Iliescu makes "appeal to all parliamentarians to prove wisdom and political judgment to pass over the disputes and rigid attitudes come out during the final stage of drafting certain articles in the constitution, to successfully conclude their activity and to adopt the country's fundamental law in a climate of understanding and constructive cooperation."

Stolojan, Experts Discuss Prices, Role of Press

AU2011151091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1305 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 20/11/1991—The issue of high newsprint costs will be analysed in a sitting held, Wednesday, November 20, at the initiative of Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan, to which high executives were invited in the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Telecommunications, Transport, Culture, the Government's Department of Information, other experts.

The head of the executive opened the sitting by saying that an evaluation must be made during this first discussion of the formation of prices in a few days' time a clear position has to be taken, on the basis of the data offered by this analysis. Mr. Stolojan referred to the role of the press in today's Romania, especially during the forthcoming campaign for general and local elections, that is supposed to last more than four months. The prime minister added that the freedom of speech is a component of a democracy, it is therefore a matter of national interest, which has to be taken into account.

Cooperatist Party Issues Appeal on Economic Issues

AU1911210291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1923 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 19/11/1991—The Cooperatist Democratic Party asks the Romanian parliament to concentrate its efforts for defining an emergency programme able to stop the falling down of the national economy and to recover the productive activity.

In a letter addressed to parliament's members and sent to the ROMPRES NEWS AGENCY for release, the Cooperatist Democratic Party also requires the promotion of a law to put an end to financing blocking and to stop any inefficient economic activity especially with the state-capital economic agents.

The parliament is also required to urgently debate the three bills on the protection of the handicapped. The handicraft cooperation employs 22,000 handicapped people of whom 2,500 blind people.

FSN Members Voice Dissatisfaction With Roman

AU1911170891 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 16-17 Nov 91 p 1

[AVR PRESS signed note: "Mr. Petre Roman 'Feels' the Elections"]

[Text] On Tuesday, 12 November, the national leader of the National Salvation Front [FSN] held a meeting with the senators and deputies of this party, asking them to accept the article in the draft constitution that refers to the possibility that both the plaintiff and the defendant, the offender and the accused person, could address the court in their modern tongue. In other words, in the

Hungarian language, because the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania [UDMR] is the major supporter of this controversial subject. One could think that Mr. Roman tries to come closer to the UDMR for electoral purposes, because behind the scenes, the Front is talking with increasing insistency about the nomination of the former prime minister to the office of Romania's president in the next spring. We have learned from FSN sources that the parliamentarians of this party are not pleased at all with... the recommendations of the national political leader, thus, surprises are not excluded.

Ban on 'Extremist' Political Parties Demanded

AU2011100791 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 13 Nov 91 pp 1, 2

[Article by Valentin Constantinescu: "Without Delay—Prohibition of Extremist Parties, a Priority of Romania's Democratic Political Activity"]

[Text] While in the first months following the people's revolution of December 1989 the central and local nomenklatura and the Securitate leaders fearfully expected the people to pass judgment on their crimes, later—seeing that the FSN [National Salvation Front], despite all formal declarations about the trial of communism, not only refrains from undertaking anything, but even uses numerous of the former and adjusted nomenklatura and communist structures—they regained their arrogance and self-assurance and began to practice revolting propaganda. The FSN believed that the creation of the Socialist Party of Labor [PSM] (actually the reactivation of the Romanian Communist Party) will be for its benefit, on the one hand, by channeling the attention of genuine democratic parties toward this new threat and, on the other hand, by reaping advantages from the comparison between dogmatic communists and reforming communists (as if the Romanian people were obligated to choose between two evils). However, the serious mistakes made by those in power in connection with formulating, phasing out, and the unfolding of the economic reform, which, among other things, led to exorbitant price hikes, offered the Socialist Party of Labor the opportunity for demagogic and populist speculations. The failure of the state coup in the Soviet Union demonstrated to the whole world that the preservation of communist structures and of the policy of half measures pose a serious threat, namely the reestablishment of the communist dictatorship.

To safeguard the future of democratic political activity in our country requires the prohibition of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP], the Socialist Party of Labor, and of all communist-type political formations. The reasons for this prohibition are of a principled democratic and juridical nature. Of a principled democratic nature, because the ideology of these parties violates the essence of democracy, which presupposes the people's right to express or periodically modify (usually every four years) their political option. Of a juridical nature, because these communist- type parties are mentioned in the provisions of National Security Law No. 51 of 29 July 1991, Article 3, paragraph 1, letter h.

The Romanian Communist Party, which was the author of hundreds of thousands of political assassinations and of the imprisonment of innocent people, obviously belongs to this incriminated category.

The Socialist Party of Labor is undoubtedly a communist-type party that is incompatible with the principles of democracy of the state of law. It is actually the continuer (or rather one of the continuers) of the Romanian Communist Party, something that is also clearly obvious from the position taken at the National Conference of the Socialist Party of Labor of 10 August 1991, which turned into the first congress of the Socialist Labor Party. These positions—it is our civic duty to say it clearly—are shamelessly impertinent: a) The RCP patrimony (buildings, transportation means, fixed assets) was claimed on the basis of a resolution; b) it was decided that the length of RCP membership be considered the length of PSM membership; c) a resolution was adopted on the lawsuits brought against the communists who were arrested after 22 December 1989 (as is known only those who were guilty of killing participants in the people's revolution of December 1989!) demanding the cessation of trials and the immediate release of both people under arrest and who have been sentenced. Similarly, it has to be mentioned that in a televised statement in April this year, PSM Honorary President Constantin Privulescu (former prominent member of the RCP higher leadership), paid homage to the 45 years of communist leadership, which for Romania meant hundreds of thousands of political assassinations and economic disaster. In connection with extremism we also have to mention—although it is not necessary—that, according to ROMPRES, there was the following affirmation at the Brasov County PSM conference: "These people who call themselves misters today are sprawling in what the communists created and sling mud at us, but many of us are still good for struggle if we try our hand at pistols and machine guns." (!) As far as the formal declarations on democracy by PSM President Ilie Verdet (former communist prime minister) are concerned, we want to recall that the noteworthy philosopher and great Romanian democrat P. R. Negulescu wrote that no one has ever spoken more about democracy than the communists and no one has more seriously violated the principles of democracy than they.

The Romanian Parliament has the fundamental democratic obligation to ban communist-type parties while the General Prosecutor's Office is obliged to apply the provisions of the National Security Law.

The General Prosecutor's Office also has to deal with the Greater Romania Party, which, so far, has had no obviously spectacular organizational events, but has practiced fierce extremist journalism. This kind of journalism has greatly harmed the Romanian people, because it has permitted domestic and foreign circles,

which proved regrettable superficiality and lack of thorough knowledge about current Romanian realities, to talk about the revival of iron-guardism and—what is more serious and unjust— about anti-Semitism in Romania, despite that fact that the Romanian people are known (and they have proved it!) for their tolerance. Some of these circles and people, who vehemently and freely talk about democracy, should have the decency to be more reserved when bearing in mind the contribution they made to the consolidation and preservation of communism in Romania. The journalists of ROMANIA MARE are not iron-guardist, but pro-Ceausescu communist nationalists. The combination of certain extremist elements ("the extremes meet") cannot mislead an alert observer. What can one say about the adherence to the principles of democracy of the Greater Romania Party leader [PRM], who calmly declares "I am the only Romanian writer who loved Ceausescu" and what assurance can we expect from the same leader about the state of law when he has the insolence to defy and almost ridicule the court before which he has to appear? And how can one term the statement "we are waiting for you in freedom, general" addressed by a paper belonging to the same ideological family to the former chief of the communist State Security Department which it served for 38 years?

The Romanian people expect the parliament and the General Prosecutor's Office to do their duty—honestly and without delay!

Boteni Garrison Carries Out Military Exercises

AU2011155091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1427 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 20/11/1991—In accordance with the troops' combat training plan, on November 20 the garrison of Boteni performs drills in which reserve military also participate and transport means from the national economy are used.

Official Warns Against Excessive Power Consumption

AU2011154491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1441 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 20/11/1991—The national grid operates with powers that average 7,200 MW, that is all the categories of electric power stations are maintained at higher-than- planned quotas, stated Mr. Claudiu Sandulescu, spokesman for the Electricity Public Corporation "Renel." The grid's frequency stands at 48,8 hz, he specified adding that, given the unsatisfactory fuel deliveries, excepting natural gas, both the stocks and the water level in storage lakes have decreased substantially. In October, for instance water tantamount to 500 million kwh was consumed, while in November more than 300 million kwh following functioning not only at peak hours but also in other periods.

A major cause of such a situation is the failure to observe the consumption programmes set by the Ministry of Industry, which provide for an average 15 percent drop in power consumption in economic units, especially in the industrial ones. So, priority is given to population's consumption and to the other spheres like health, education, culture, public administration.

Given the considerable surplus in the electric power consumption and the failure to observe the operative indication of the national grid cut electric or thermal power to all those exceeding the approved norms. [sentence as received] They will be connected again to the national grid only if they observe the consumption norms set.

Iliescu, Mitterrand Sign Friendship Treaty

AU2011193291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1852 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Paris ROMPRES, 20/11/1991—Presidents Ion Iliescu and Francois Mitterrand signed Wednesday [20 November] evening at Elysee Palace the Treaty of Friendly Understanding and Cooperation between France and Romania. The signing ceremony was preceded by a tete-a-tete interview between the French and Romanian heads of state.

Melescanu Views Treaties With Hungary, Poland

AU2011212591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1752 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/11/1991—Recently the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary sent the draft Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Relations of Good Neighbourhood Between Hungary and Romania, informed on November 20 Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania Teodor Melescanu during his weekly news conference. It is an answer the Hungarian side gives to the Romanian draft treaty handed over in May this year to the undersecretary of state at the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, Imre Sokay, during his visit to Bucharest.

Hungary's draft treaty with Romania is a positive fact, the Romanian minister assessed. The Romanian side fully shares the Hungarian side's willingness to start negotiations at any level as soon as possible so as to work out the treaty.

During the Romanian Foreign Affairs Minister Adrian Nastase's visit to the Republic of South Africa—due to take place over November 21-23—the diplomatic relations between Romania and that country will be established, Teodor Melescanu specified during the weekly press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on November 20.

A new round of negotiations has been recently held in Bucharest at the level of directors in foreign ministries to draft the Treaty Concerning the Friendly Relations and the Cooperation of Good Neighbourhood Between

Romania and Poland. The first meeting of the kind was held in Warsaw at the beginning of October, 1991. The works to draft the treaty concluded with this round of talks and it is to be prepared for signing at a set level and on a set date—Teodor Melescanu, secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, informed on Wednesday, November 20 during the weekly press conference of that ministry. He also announced the visit to Romania of the Polish minister of foreign affairs due to take place as soon as the Warsaw Government were confirmed by that country's parliament.

Romanian, Moldovan Agriculture Executives Meet

AU2111100291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0932 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 21/11/1991—Top executives of the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry had talks Wednesday, 20 November, with a delegation of people's deputies, members of the Moldovan parliament's Committee for Agriculture and Social Development.

Attending were members of the Agriculture Committee of the Romanian Assembly of Deputies.

The two sides tackled aspects regarding the application of the land law, privatisation of agriculture, a more intense cooperation in all the fields of agriculture and food industry between Romania and the Republic of Moldova.

SRI Spokesman Says 150 Officers Fled to Sweden

AU1911201391 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1803 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 19/11/1991—Mr. Nicolae Ulieru, spokesman for the Romanian Intelligence Service (SRI), said that "right after the revolution 150 Securitate (secret police) officers fled to Sweden."

Answering the journalists' questions during a news conference organized at the SRI headquarters in Bacau, Mr. Ulieru also said that "the trial against communism also implies a trial against Securitate, which means that files will be made public."

The spokesman for SRI also outlined the current concerns of the service and the modalities whereby it generally conceives its activities and highlighted the need for the existence of that institution, "fully placed in the service of the country."

International

Croatia's Separovic Talks With UN, U.S. Envoys

LD2011182591 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Croatian Foreign Minister Zvonimir Separovic today received Cyrus Vance, special envoy of the UN secretary general. Minister Separovic briefed Mr. Vance on Croatian views concerning the war in Croatia and on the Croatian Government's readiness to cooperate with all international bodies, especially the United Nations, to halt aggression on Croatia as soon as possible and to establish peace. Replying to Minister Separovic, Mr. Vance stressed that from the very beginning the object of his mission has been to lift the blockade on the Yugoslav People's Army barracks and for the Army to withdraw from Croatia. The Army must withdraw from Croatia as soon as possible. This is our prime objective, stressed Cyrus Vance.

Speaking about borders, the UN secretary general's special envoy said that he resolutely and vigorously opposes any border changes and will maintain this view until a final solution to the conflict.

In view of the fact that a cease-fire and the establishment of peace are urgently required, the debate on sending peacekeeping forces into Croatia will be held by the end of this month. The final decision may be expected as early as the first week in December, Vance said in conclusion.

Foreign Minister Separovic also received U.S. Ambassador Warren Zimmermann. The U.S. ambassador told Minister Separovic that he had just had a meeting with General Raseta, to whom he had conveyed the United States' great concern because of the continued aggression on Croatia. Gen Raseta defended himself, saying that what is involved is only the liberation of the barracks that are blocked, but the U.S. ambassador told him that even if this is true, the Army has overstepped the line and that this is unacceptable.

Minister Separovic thanked the U.S. ambassador for this stance on the aggression against Croatia, stressing that Croatia is asking for understanding and help from the United States, which today is the only world superpower. We are asking for the peacekeeping forces to arrive and for U.S. help to have the blockade of the air, sea, and road traffic lifted, Minister Separovic added.

The U.S. ambassador stressed that there has been considerable ambiguity as to whether Croatia will go for a political or military option in seeking a solution to the crisis. Croatia has now taken the political option and we are very happy about this decision. We will warn the Yugoslav Army and Serbia that Croatia is fulfilling all the conditions for the cessation of the war, whereas they are continuing the aggression, said Zimmermann.

At the end of the meeting, Minister Separovic asked Ambassador Zimmermann for his country to take on the incipient process of Yugoslavia's delegalization [delegalizacija] in international forums.

Tudjman Meets U.S. Envoy, Calls for Support

LD2011163191 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Croatian President Franjo Tudjman has received U.S. ambassador Warren Zimmermann and informed him about the drastic situation in the Republic of Croatia. Despite the cease-fire, the Yugoslav Army and the Serbian outlaws are continuing their attacks on many battlefields, violating agreements regarding the evacuation of wounded from Vukovar. President Tudjman stressed that U.S. support and a resolute U.S. stand are very important for the success of the forthcoming deployment of the UN peacekeeping forces. Ambassador Zimmermann said he sympathized with the suffering of the Croatian people, who have been exposed to aggression, and promised to convey to the U.S. government his impressions and a demand that the United States should get more actively involved in the settlement of the crisis, a statement of the president's office concludes.

Secretariat Protests Noninclusion in Vienna Meeting

LD2011120991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0937 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 7 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Embassy in Vienna has notified the Yugoslav Government Secretariat for Development that the Austrian Foreign Ministry, following its consultations with the European Community (EC), decided to withhold the participation of a Yugoslav delegation in the ministerial Conference on European Cooperation and Scientific-Technical Research in Vienna November 20-21.

The Yugoslav Secretariat for Development, as was made public by the Yugoslav Government Secretariat for Information, sent on the occasion a letter of protest to Erhard Buzek, conference chairman and Austrian science minister and vice-chancellor.

In its letter, the Yugoslav Secretariat for Development stresses the international character of this ministerial conference and recalls that Yugoslavia, along with Turkey and EC and EFTA [European Free Trade Association] members, is a signatory to the general resolution of this conference or its co-founder.

Institutions from Yugoslavia are at this time included in 23 programs of this conference, the Yugoslav Information Secretariat said.

French Hospital Ship Docks in Dubrovnik

LD2011143191 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1300 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The hospital ship Rance has berthed in the port of Dubrovnik. Rance is equipped with a helicopter pad. After a preliminary selection, the wounded will be taken to a lower floor, to the medical section's central gangway. The hospital wards are able to receive about 100 wounded. Rance is equipped with biological and biochemical laboratories, a blood bank, a sterilization room, and a dental surgery.

Federal

Kostic Meets With Markovic in Belgrade

LD2011164991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1257 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Titograd, Nov 20 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency Vice President Branko Kostic and Federal Prime Minister Ante Markovic met in Belgrade yesterday, as an exclusive report in POBJEDA, a leading daily in the Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro issued in its capital, sets out today.

The meeting between Kostic and Markovic took place after a Yugoslav State Presidency session yesterday, the daily writes.

The Yugoslav State Presidency session reviewed the possibility of finding a new figure for the mandatory [as received] of the Federal Government, after the Yugoslav bicameral parliament's Chamber of Republics and Provinces denied confidence to current Prime Minister Markovic last week.

Prime Minister Markovic, as POBJEDA sets out, on the occasion set out to Kostic "his stand on the rump Yugoslav parliament and the illegitimate denial of confidence."

Kostic, as the paper writes, maintained his arguments that the parliament is in charge of deciding the fate of the prime minister, without denying Markovic the right to sit in his Cabinet until the election of a new prime minister.

Nothing has been officially reported about this meeting so far.

Presidency Has No Information on Mesic's Recall

LD2011133191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1151 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Nov (TANJUG)—TANJUG has learned that the SFRY Presidency has not received any information that Croatia has withdrawn Stipe Mesic from the collective head of state, and thus from the function of president of the SFRY Presidency.

The SFRY Presidency, according to circles of the collective head of state, learned from the press about the conclusion of the Supreme State Council of the Republic of Croatia that "Croatia no longer needs nor does it have any political interest in Stipe Mesic, representative of the Republic of Croatia, remaining in the Presidency of the former federation," and that "it was not met with any surprise."

The conclusion of the Supreme State Council of the Republic of Croatia, according to the SFRY Presidency, does not have any constitutional or legal effect.

The council, the same sources recall, is an advisory body of the republican president and it is only the Croatian Assembly that can adopt a decision to recall Mesic. If that happens, Mesic will automatically step down as president of the SFRY Presidency.

According to provisions of the federal constitution and the book of procedure of the SFRY Presidency, sessions of the collective head of state in that case can be attended by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman. That is, in accordance with provisions of the federal constitution, "if the mandate of a member of the SFRY Presidency ceases before the end of the period for which he was elected, his function ceases on the day of his recall by the republican or provincial Assembly, and the function of the SFRY Presidency member is carried out by the republican Presidency president, that is, the provincial Presidency president, until a new member of the SFRY Presidency from that republic, that is, province, is proclaimed in the SFRY Assembly.

This means that if the Croatian Assembly recalls Mesic, Tudjman will have the power to carry out the function of the Croatian member of the collective head of state, but, the SFRY Presidency sources stress, not to be the Presidency president.

The fact that Croatia proclaimed its secession, according to the SFRY Presidency, in this case, and also in the case of Janez Drnovsek, does not mean anything. Such a stand is based on the fact that the collective head of state, which has been working with four members since the beginning of October, does not recognize the act of secession of Croatia, nor does it recognize the secession of Slovenia.

Mesic Statement on Resignation Significance

LD2011212891 Zagreb HTV Television in Serbo-Croatian 1830 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Excerpt] My departure from the Presidency means that Croatia no longer recognizes the legitimacy of any federal organ or any of its decisions, thus forcing the world to accept a new reality and publicly demonstrating that Yugoslavia no longer exists, Stipe Mesic, president of the Yugoslav Presidency, told HINA [Croatian news agency] when asked to comment on the proposal of the Supreme State Council to withdraw from the Federal Presidency. This proposal can only be productive to the extent at

which it can force the world to accept reality, because Croatia will no longer recognize any decisions of any federal organ, and for Croatia all decisions of the rump presidency, the government and the Assembly are no longer legitimate, Mesic stressed. [passage omitted]

Chamber Agrees on Method of Decisionmaking

AU2111123191 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Report by Srdjan Savic]

[Text] The session of the Federal Chamber is already three hours late because one of its committees is trying to work out a method for the Federal Chamber's work and decisionmaking. The Committee for Sociopolitical Relations, which is discussing this problem again, proposed a compromise solution to the Federal Chamber. This solution was also accepted by the delegates from Bosnia-Hercegovina. It was concluded that the Federal Chamber is made up of delegates from four republics and two provinces. This chamber now has 160 delegates because Croatia and Slovenia withdrew their delegates.

The Federal Chamber will be making decisions on the basis of a majority vote by the majority of the remaining delegates. Issues concerning war and peace and human rights and national equality will be decided with a majority vote of the delegates that make up the quorum, plus 10 delegates. This means that if decisions on the aforementioned issues are to be adopted, they will require 91 votes. It is uncertain at present whether the Federal Chamber will discuss confidence in Premier Ante Markovic.

This is all from the SFRY Assembly.

Assembly Upholds Draft Law on Credits for JNA

LD2011141391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1318 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 20 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav parliament's finance committee today upheld a draft law on providing a credit of 21 billion dinars (around 1.6 billion German marks) for financing national defence this year.

The law on financial sources for funding certain needs of national defence this year was proposed by the Yugoslav State Presidency in order to compensate to the army for the funds envisaged under this year's federal budget

A total of around 70 billion dinars of appropriated funds were to go to the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) from this year's federal budget. However, since the federal units failed to fully carry out timely payments to the federal budget, the funds for the army were significantly lower than envisaged.

Deputies Challenge 'Imminent War Threat' Decision

LD2011150991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1224 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 20 (TANJUG)—Fifty-two MPs [member of parliament] in the Yugoslav bicameral parliament's Federal Chamber challenged today a decision by the Yugoslav State Presidency on declaring a state of "an imminent threat of war" and on the Presidency's work in such conditions.

Deputies from the Yugoslav Autonomous Province of Kosovo (ethnic Albanians) and those from the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and from the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina (predominantly Muslims) sought that the Yugoslav Constitutional Court should also assess the conclusion concerning the work of the Yugoslav parliament's Chamber of the Republics and Provinces in the absence of delegates from the Yugoslav republics of Slovenia and Croatia.

The decision on its work in the conditions of an imminent threat of war was made by the Yugoslav State Presidency in early October.

The Yugoslav State Presidency's decision, as deputies maintain, "had not been made in a form of a formal-legal act and has not been published in the official gazette of Yugoslavia."

It was indicated that the Presidency "had not consulted MPs in evaluating the existence of an imminent threat of war," that it "had not notified parliament about the reasons for which it turned to its work in the conditions of an imminent threat of war," and that "it had not submitted its adopted acts to parliament for endorsement."

MPs stressed that Yuoslav parliament was "meeting regularly" and that "conditions do exist for its exercising its constitutional powers" and it was for these reasons that they had doubted that constitutional prerequisites existed for the Yugoslav Presidency to take these decisions.

"It is thanks to this decision that the Yugoslav Presidency works and makes decisions, disregarding Constitution, in its incomplete composition (with members from only two republics, Serbia and Montenegro), or, without the required quorum"—say MPs in their bid to the Constitutional Court of Yugoslavia.

Court Bans Croatia's Decision To Sever Links

LD2011132291 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1111 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Nov (TANJUG)—The Constitutional Court of Yugoslavia today temporarily banned the application of a decision adopted by the Croatian Assembly on 8 October on severing state and legal links with the SFRY.

It was concluded that the implementation of the decision, as an act of secession by Croatia, can bring about irreparable detrimental consequences for the SFRY, its constituent republics, its work organizations and its citizens.

The Croatian Assembly's decision, against which the Federal Executive Council initiated constitutional proceedings, sets out that Croatia is severing its state and legal links with the SFRY and denies legitimacy and legality to all federal bodies.

The decision also sets out that Croatia, on the basis of reciprocity, recognizes the independence and sovereignty of other republics of "the former SFRY", and that it will continue the procedure of establishing mutual rights and obligations in relation to other republics of "the former SFRY" and in relation to "the former federation".

Markovic Says Cease-Fire Prerequisite to Peace

LD2011182891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1745 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 20 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government said at today's session, chaired by Federal Prime Minister Ante Markovic, that an end of the conflict in Yugoslavia "is the first and crucial step towards settling the crisis," a statement released from the session said.

"The ceasefire is a prerequisite for sending a U.N. peacekeeping force to Yugoslavia and for continuing The Hague conference. The duration of the European Community's economic sanctions against Yugoslavia and the possible U.N. Security Council measures also depend on the establishment of peace"—the statement said.

The Federal Government assessed the visit to Yugoslavia by the U.N. secretary-general's special envoy Cyrus Vance as "a contribution to constructive efforts for establishing peace."

Vance is on a several-day visit to Yugoslavia, during which—as stated on his arrival—he should examine the possibility of sending a U.N peacekeeping force to this country.

The government upheld Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis's call to Markovic to meet with him and discuss current developments in Yugoslavia, the statement said.

The Yugoslav Presidency, meeting in its incomplete composion (four of the eight members), on (?Monday) [words indistinct] nominating the candidates for a new federal prime minister [word indistinct] one of the two chambers of the Federal Parliament, the Chamber of Republics and Provinces, last Friday passed a vote of no confidence in Markovic.

The other, the Federal Chamber, is to vote tomorrow on whether markovic should remain prime minister. The Yugoslav Presidency has announced that by Friday, it will nominate the mandate to form a new Federal Government.

Slovenia

Peterle on Recognition, W. European Intervention

LD2111094891 Budapest MTI in English 0822 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] Budapest, November 21 (MTI)—Slovenia is hoping for the international community to recognise its sovereignty soon, Slovene Prime Minister Lojze Peterle said in an interview published by the Hungarian daily "NEPSZABADSAG" on Thursday [21 November].

Answering a question about how it is possible to maintain a relative calm in Slovenia while fierce fighting is going on in Croatia, Peterle said the Yugoslav Federal Army leaving Slovenia signals that Serbia is now willing to recognise the republic's sovereignty.

"I am sure we need not be afraid of renewed attacks now" he said.

According to Peterle, Hungary is not in the position to be among the first to recognise Slovenia's independence, but it will not be the last country to do so, either. He expressed his conviction that Austria, Hungary and Italy will soon recognise a sovereign Slovenia.

Replying to a question about an eventual military intervention on the part of the Western European Union, Peterle said he is sure Western Europe will not intervene in the Yugoslav conflict by military means. "A Western European military intervention in yugoslavia could easily lead to the 'Lebanonization' of the Croat-Serb conflict", he said.

Peterle outlined his view that Europe has not yet used all the political, diplomatic and economic means at its disposal to try to solve the crisis. The economic sanctions imposed by the EC, for example, hit Slovenia and Croatia harder than Serbia and the Yugoslav Federal Army, Peterle told "NEPSZABADSAG."

Kucan Stresses Importance of Recognition

LD2011233491 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 2100 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] The session today of the Commission for International Relations of the Slovene Assembly dealt with the drafting of conclusions and positions concerning Slovenia's foreign political position. The conclusions will be discussed by the republican Assembly tomorrow at a joint session of all three chambers.

Presidency President Milan Kucan, Slovene Prime Minister Lojze Peterle, and Slovene Chamber of Commerce President Feri Horvat attended the commission session today.

President Kucan stressed that the issue of international recognition of Slovenia was, for our young state, an issue of its continued existence and not just a political or moral issue. President Kucan had a few observations to make concerning the document drafted by the Slovene Foreign Ministry. In his view the conclusions should lay additional emphasis on the Republic of Slovenia's membership in international organizations, especially the UN and the CSCE. Slovenia should also strive to attain associated EC membership. The document should take a position on the issue of the state-legal succession of former Yugoslavia, that is, on the distribution criteria. We should express our views on the EC measures against Yugoslavia and on the question of national minorities. President Kucan also said that more attention should be paid to relations with the United States and to our country's policy adaptation to European integration processes.

Prime Minister Peterle spoke of the sequence of priority tasks to be encompased by the document. In his view, the most important issue is the continuation of the Hague conference, the meeting of the Twelve in Rome, relations with the former Yugoslavia and its parts, membership in foreign organizations, bilateral relations in Europe, and the consolidation of good-neighborly relations with Croatia, Italy, and Austria.

The Commission will include the observations and proposals in the document and will get it ready for the Slovene Assembly session tomorrow.

Rupel Briefs Assembly on International Recognition

AU2011180891 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1430 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] At their joint session today, the deputies of all three chambers of the Slovene Assembly first listened to Foreign Minister Dr. Dimitrij Rupel. He spoke about Slovenia's international position in view of the efforts for a speedy recognition of our state. In the debate some deputies criticized his report, as well as the work of the Slovene delegation at the Hague Peace Conference. Milan Kucan, president of the Slovene Presidency, also took the floor and rejected a number of reproaches, which came primarily from the Liberal Party, the Christian Democratic Party, and the Slovene Farmers' Alliance. Nadja Pengov has more details about the Assembly session:

[Begin recording] [Pengov] First some highlights from the report read to deputies by Dr. Dimitrij Rupel, in which he stated the reasons why Slovenia is having so many problems in gaining international recognition. The world's interest in Slovenia can partially be attributed to our own politics and successful state-forming activities, Rupel said. It is also partially a result of the fear provoked by the chaos in our part of the world.

[Rupel] I spoke about the risk relating to our independence in this hall before the end of the moratorium [8 October]. We have opted for the risk, not only this high house, but the Slovene citizens, I can say, entirely and unanimously. The question of the survival and future of the Slovene nation was at stake. Besides fame and respect, we are now also facing problems and complications that we cannot significantly influence. We can soften the blows and other consequences of the unilateral and even wrong judgments and acts, or reject them, but we have to be aware that we are not alone in the world, and that Europe, which is otherwise quite sympathetic, has not been tailored to suit only our taste, and, therefore, we must get used to it and also conform to it.

[Pengov] Numerous people in Europe and in the world are convinced that separatism and self-determination are harmful. The recognition of Slovenia, and especially the recognition of Croatia, is dividing interests in the EC. Dr. Rupel said that it is very important that we try to explain our efforts in the context of an independent and free Slovenia, contributing to the unifying, and not dividing, processes in Europe. The war in Croatia is hanging over the Hague Conference, and because there is no peace, economic sanctions were imposed. Objectively speaking, these sanctions might harm those republics that have participated in the peace process, that is to say, Slovenia, which is very export oriented. The positive measures promised in Rome are of vital importance for us, the Slovene foreign minister again stressed.

Europe expects Slovenia, and it is in our interest, to actively participate at the conference. We will have to insist that the talks end as soon as possible. In this sense, Slovenia has already put forward its proposals. We favor the conference being convened as soon as possible. The conference should discuss three issues: protection for the minorities in the republics, international recognition of the republics that seek it, and the question of succession and separating final accounts [delitvena bilanca]. The Slovene position is that all republics are the heirs to Yugoslavia.

The introduction by the Slovene foreign minister was followed by the debate and criticism. A criticism of the expose and the composition of people who represent Slovenia in the Hague was leveled by deputy Daniel Starman. Borut Pahor, and some other deputies from his party [party not identified], warned that the economic aspect of independence has been pushed to the side too much. Dr. Peter Glavic warned that republics will not be able to resolve their problems before the nationalist regimes that started the war in Croatia fall. Blockades in the economy must be lifted by the end of the year. Vitomir Gros of the Liberal Party is convinced there are not enough economists in the delegations that are travelling abroad. He condemned President Kucan for spreading defeatism in his speeches. Deputy Gros is convinced that Slovenia will survive without international recognition. Milan Kucan, president of the Slovene Presidency, responded to these critics.

[Kucan] Whether the Republic of Slovenia must achieve recognition and can achieve recognition is not a matter

of our conviction, at least not significantly. In the first place, the world, the international community, international organizations, and other countries from which we expect recognition and which will recognize us as a mature, responsible, and wanted country must be convinced of this. The Hague Conference is one of the conditions, if you wish, one of the stations on our way to persuading the international community that Slovenia deserves such international recognition. Two things are of key importance. Number one, to persuade the world that the decision made by Slovenia, the overwhelming majority of the Slovene citizens, was democratic—something that is today generally no longer disputed. Number two, this recognition will not threaten interests, peace, and security of other countries, of Europe, and of the world. We have to prove this, not to ourselves and especially not in this assembly, but to the EC, European states, the United Nations, and to the world.

[Pengov] And regarding Slovenia's recognition?

[Kucan] This is a question of existence for Slovenia. I could give you enough reasons and information to prove this. It is not logical stating here that these EC measures are hurting us and at the same time stating that recognition is not a matter of existence for Slovenia.

[Pengov] President Kucan then tried again to explain to the deputies why we have not been recognized yet. Some are still convinced that Slovenia took a unilateral step, which then also caused the war in Croatia. Europe is also afraid that its unity, which has existed for 30 years, will be shattered. It is also afraid of war. At the moment, for us, that is to say for Slovenia, the most important thing is that Europe fully implements the Rome decision, which also includes positive measures for the cooperative republics, as soon as possible. However, we have to bear in mind that there are still countries that insist that Slovenia renounce its plebiscitary decision. Slovenia will not do this. Europe must be persuaded that the Slovene decision is in the interests of peace, but this should be done through persuasion and not blackmail. [end recording]

Record High Inflation Rate Hits Republic

92BA0124A Ljubljana NEODVISNI DNEVNIK in Slovene 9 Nov 91 p 4

[Article by Marjan Lacic: "The Surprising Name Inflation"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 8 Nov—The approximately 21.5-percent October growth in retail prices (read: inflation) in Slovenia probably surprised everyone—the government, the monetary authorities, and the population as a whole. In a month when virtually no major product became more expensive, and when Slovenia achieved financial independence and thus got all the financial levers in its own hands, we also achieved the highest monthly inflation of 1991. October's inflation was particularly painful because the discount rate, and thus, let us say, planned inflation, was only 25 percent—but at the annual level.

"There are two reasons for the record inflation in October," stated Janko Delezak, the chairman of the Assembly Committee for the Credit and Monetary System and Policy, and an associate member of the board of the Bank of Slovenia. The first reason is the statistical means of covering the growth of retail prices, which goes from the 21st of the month to the 21st of the next month, and is published for the current month. October's 21.5-percent inflation was therefore measured on the basis of the growth of retail prices from 21 September to 21 October. Slovenia, however, did not take over all the financial levers itself until 8 October, and consequently was only able to influence monetary trends for 13 days. It is also a fact that monetary authorities' measures usually only have an effect upon current trends a month or two after they are instituted, because a certain amount of time is needed for them to reach all pores of social life. This primarily applies to banks, the state (the budget), enterprises, paragovernmental institutions (insurance companies), and the populace.

The second reason that swelled October's inflation, and in Janko Dezelak's opinion will continue to influence Slovenia's monetary system, is the dinar incursions from August to October. Objectively, it was not possible to calculate the extent of the conversion of dinars to tolars at the ratio of 1:1. Because of the dinar incursions, the extent of the conversion was clearly too high. The consequence of these and other facts was excess liquidity at the banks. Also, because of an unreasonably high proportion of rediscount quotas, the banks had more money than they needed for the real (increasingly lower) volume of commodity flows. That situation, of course, also helped to swell inflation further.

Recently the Bank of Slovenia has adopted several measures to curb inflation. Thus, it has limited the volume of banks' tolar deposits by lowering rediscount rates. It has also recalled liquidity loans, which were associated with a net reduction in citizens' foreign exchange savings. The lower volume of tolar loans means a lower volume of money in circulation, which, along with a flexible exchange rate policy (the tolar:German mark exchange rate has been frozen since 8 October, but probably will not be much longer), could mean a brake on inflation. At the same time, this will necessarily "wash ashore" all of Slovenia's economic problems, which, in Janko Dezelak's opinion, should finally start to be cleared up.

Consequently, inflation should at any rate be lower by the end of the year than it was in October, and this will also be influenced, not least of all, by the population's lower buying power. Because of critically low personal incomes, the parliament and the government do not intend to freeze prices and wages in the struggle against

inflation. One of the weapons against inflation could also be formal international recognition of Slovenia, because then we could get loans abroad legally and substantially more cheaply.

The assessments of primarily foreign and also Slovene experts are that the existing economic structure and the current state of the Slovene economy, in spite of all the difficulties, make it possible for us to survive the present hard times. Some sort of broader social partnership will probably be necessary—an agreement among the government, owners, and trade unions on jointly solving the problems. Slovenia will need to undertake the financial rehabilitation of banks and the restructuring of the banking system very quickly. The central bank's monetary measures cannot function effectively in a monopolistic banking structure. The state bank would thus have to be exclusively the Bank of Slovenia, and not, for instance, the Ljubljana Bank, which is certainly only one of the commercial banks.

Croatia

Information Ministry Denies 'Rumor' of Massacre

LD2111095391 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0700 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] The government of the Republic of Croatia has issued a sharp protest at the uncritical reporting of a rumor being spread by the Serbian army about the alleged killing of about 40 children, the Information Ministry says in a statement distributed to the world media.

The report is based on the evidence of a free-lance Serbian photographer, who claimed that he had seen the bodies in the basement of a school after it had been abandoned by the defenders of Vukovar. He claims, however, that he was not allowed to photograph the bodies. It is beyond comprehension that publicity is being given to a report based on one source only, but which could have far-reaching implications despite being full of unattestable elements. The authenticity of the claim is questionable in the light of the fact that the Serbian Army has disallowed access to the area—not only to journalists, but also to International Committee of the Red Cross representatives. It therefore looks quite improbable that the said journalist had access to what he claims to have seen. The fact that no other source has confirmed the report casts doubt on the report itself and on the work of the journalist.

The motives behind the report are suspicious. As the U.S. Senate is in session now to vote on the official recognition of the Republic of Croatia, it is possible that the intention was to spread a rumor of this kind to damage the reputation of Croatia as a democratic country which deserves international recognition, the Ministry of Information says in conclusion.

Vukovar Declared Capital of Autonomous Region

AU2111120191 Paris AFP in English 1127 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 21 (AFP)—Vukovar, the east Croatian city which fell Tuesday [19 November], will be the capital of a self-declared Serbian autonomous region in Croatian territory, a Serb nationalist leader said on Belgrade television Thursday.

Goran Hadzic, who spoke in the ruined streets of Vukovar, formerly a symbol of Croatian resistance to Serbia, said he was the head of the new government for this region. He said the government met for the first time in Vukovar Wednesday night, 24 hours after the city fell to the Serbian-dominated Yugoslav Army after a three-month siege.

He said the Serbian autonomous region included Slavonia, Baranija and western Srem—Serbian majority areas in Croatia. They were at the heart of Yugoslavia's civil war over Croatian attempts to declare independence from the federation.

Hadzic also said he had reached agreement with the Army that Croatian fighters taken prisoner in Vukovar—estimated at 2,500 by Belgrade television—should be tried in "this autonomous region."

Commander Dedakovic Arrested by Military Police

LD2111100191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0757 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] Zagreb, 21 Nov (TANJUG)—In a statement delivered to TANJUG early this morning, the Croatian Party of Rights [Hrvatska Stranka Prava] [HSP] claims that "the well-known Croatian fighter Mile Dedakovic—Jastreb [Hawk]—was arrested by military police today." According to the statement signed by "Blaz Kraljevic, head of HSP publicity," about 50 heavily armed military policemen captured Jastreb, and took him to an unknown destination.

Having noted that Mile Dedakovic "is the defense commander for Vukovar, Vinkovci and Zupanja," the HSP goes on to accuse "the government of Dr. Tudjman" of "wanting to lay the blame for the fall of Vukovar on a man who defended Vukovar and suroounding villages and towns."

Tudjman Appoints New Defense Minister, Others

LD2011161191 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] On the basis of Article 98 of the Croatian Constitution, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman passed a decision on the appointment of Jurica Pavelic as Croatian deputy prime minister and Admiral Bozidar Grubisic as assistant defense minister. The Croatian president also passed a decision on the appointment of Stjepan Zdunic, former minister without portfolio in the

Croatian government, as minister of economic development. Zlatko Gledec was appointed assistant trade minister; Antun Seda was appointed assistant minister of agriculture and forestry; and Branko Jeren was appointed assistant minister of science and information technology. The new assistant minister of transport and communications is Zeljko Hitrec.

Serbia

Kosutic, Jovanovic Hold News Conference 20 Nov

Presence of Foreign Warships Noted

AU2011210291 Belgrade RTV Sat TV in Serbo-Croatian 1830 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Excerpts] According to established practice, Dr. Budimir Kosutic, vice president of the Government of Serbia, and Vladislav Jovanovic, republic foreign minister, held a news conference today. The subjects were the position of Serbs in Macedonia, the deployment of United Nations peacekeeping forces in Yugoslavia, and participation in Serbia's health system. Maja Vojinovic has the details:

[Begin recording] [Vojinovic] [passage omitted] Regarding the issue of whether the new federal government will be internationally recognized, Kosutic said that it would be normal to expect that it would not be recognized by the EC, whose member countries have not after all reacted to numerous cases of the massacre of children and innocent Serbian population. However, Kosutic added that there are many more states in the world than just the EC.

In response to the question of what would be done concerning the announced arrival of foreign warships in the Adriatic, Serbia's Foreign Minister Vladislav Jovanovic said only political measures would be taken, considering that territorial integrity would not be violated. Here is what else Minister Jovanovic said about foreign ships in our waters:

[Jovanovic] The unannounced and uninvited arrival of foreign ships and any appearance of foreign military presence near either the territorial waters or the borders of one country is never considered an act which favors the strengthening of trust and the resolving of the existing problems. This is a demonstration of force with aims that want thus to be achieved. It would be very good if the excursion by these three ships was only one episode that would end in the explanations that have been given and would not represent the introduction of a wider or even riskier scenario. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Macedonian Constitution Protested

AU2011174191 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] According to the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia there are no Serbs in this federal unit. This has been said at a news conference in the Government of the Republic of Serbia. It would therefore be most appropriate to conduct a new population census under international supervision. Marinela Raznjatovic has the details:

[Begin Raznjatovic recording] Egyptians, Romanies, and Albanians live in Macedonia, but Serbs do not because they do not exist at all in the latest Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia. This is why Serbs from Macedonia have already sent a statement to the international community on this, bearing in mind that representatives of Macedonia signed various documents in The Hague only to eliminate one people from their republic with their very next action.

This has also been discussed by the Government of the Republic of Serbia which concluded that it should meet all its obligations to republican, federal, and international laws and agreements. According to Budimir Kosutic [Serbian deputy prime minister], one democratic measure would be a new population census in Macedonia under international supervision.

In reply to a question on what the Government of Serbia thinks about the decision by the Chamber of Republics and Provinces of the SFRY Assembly on the replacement of the president of the Federal Executive Council, Budimir Kosutic said that Serbia thinks that Yugoslavia still exists and respects the decisions of all federal organs. Regarding the person to set up the next government, Kosutic said that the Republic of Serbia already has several candidates, but it is not yet time to say who they are. [end recording]

'Albanian Revolutionary Organization' Formed

AU2011150091 Zagreb Radio Croatia in Albanian 2145 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Another political party has been formed in Pristina—the Albanian Revolutionary Organization [Organizata Revolucionare Shqiptare], which unites the Kosovo Communist Group [Grupi Komunist i Kosoves], the Marxist-Leninist Group [Grupi Marksist-Leninist], and the Party of Struggle [Partia e Luftes]. Managing and organizational committees have been elected. This organization is ready to join with sister parties and to cooperate for a solution to the Albanian national cause.

Bosnia-Hercegovina

Izetbegovic Addresses Journalists at News Briefing

Discusses Troops, Prime Minister Issue

LD2011160691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1341 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Sarajevo, 20 Nov (TANJUG)—Bosnia-Hercegovina will ask Cyrus Vance, the envoy of

the UN secretary general, for the "blue helmets" to be stationed in Bosnia-Hercegovina as well.

Journalists were told this today by Alija Izetbegovic, president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency. He stressed that in his view UN troops should be deployed in this republic's trouble spots along the River Drina, in Trebinje, and in some Bosanska Krajina areas.

Cyrus Vance is due in Sarajevo tomorrow, Izetbegovic added. Military experts will accompany him. They know best, that is, we shall ask them to suggest, where "the blue helmets" should be stationed in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Izetbegovic stressed. [passage omitted]

Journalists were also interested in Izetbegovic's views on a motion of no-confidence in Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic. We have been asked to put forward a candidate for the new premier, but we have not replied, Izetbegovic said. Had the move been made by the Presidency in its entirety, we would have taken part in the negotiations. However, since this has been done by a rump Presidency, Izetbegovic stressed, we consider the move to replace Markovic to be unlawful, and the present four-member SFRY Presidency to be illegitimate.

Condemns Croatian 'Community'

AU2011205491 Sarajevo Radio Sarajevo Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The creation of the Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna is one of the political mistakes of the Croatian Democratic Community in Bosnia-Hercegovina, stated Alija Izetbegovic at today's regular news conference in the Party of Democratic Action. The protection of Bosnia-Hercegovina's integrity and unity and a creation of the civil citizens' state [civilna gradjanska drzava] with the maximum amount of human rights for everybody is the only way and the only solution for this republic, Izetbegovic said and added that the latest move by the Croatian Democratic Community is not in the interest of the Croatian nation in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Commenting on Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel's statement that Turkey will not permit that the Federal Army ruins what Turkey has built in 500 years, Izetbegovic said that any intervention that would be aimed at preventing destruction similar to that in Dubrovnik and Vukovar is welcome regardless from whom it may come. Izetbegovic said that blue helmets will be called to Bosnia- Hercegovina, too. The cooperation between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the Federal Army is being carried out with his knowledge and according to his directions. The aim of this cooperation is to reduce the danger presented by the armed groups that out of control. Izetbegovic pointed out that the Army has overstepped the agreed limits in its searches on buses and trains, that it will not be allowed do this in the future, and that he sent a protest letter to the military authorities regarding the control and mistreatment of the refugees from Slunj. Izetbegovic deemed the demand for deposition of Ante Markovic an illegal act of the self-styled SFRY Presidency.